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Officials, residents question Baystate Health

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

Virtual Town Hall held to discuss Mary Lane closure

WARE – Baystate Health official held a Zoom Community Town Hall Tuesday to give residents and others a chance to ask questions about their plans to close the Mary Lane satellite emergency facility and cancer care at the Ware health center by June and close everything else within two years.

Baystate Health officials have said they will demolish the site and remove the debris and offer the site as a green space if that is what the town wants or it will work with the town if it has another use in mind.

Baystate Health officials announced their plans in late January, surprising town officials

and residents with the news that emergency and cancer care would be gone in six months. The state Department of Public Health will hold regulatory hearings about the end of the emergency facility and the closure of entire building.

Baystate Health President and CEO Dr. Mark Keroack and

Baystate Health Eastern Region President and Chief Administrative Officer Molly Gray briefly went over the plans to close the facility, which is due to a lack of patients and the difficulty in keeping physicians, they said. The hospital building itself also needs at least \$5 million in upgrades and repairs,

and they said it was not financially responsible to invest in it when there are not enough patients to sustain it.

“This touches me personally,” Keroack said. “Both my parents were born in Mary Lane in the 1920s, and I know this is difficult news for our community.”

Gray said by consolidating emergency care and physician practices at Wing Hospital in

Palmer and the majority of cancer care at D’Amour Cancer Center in Springfield, Baystate Health can provide better care for all patients, including those from Ware and surrounding towns.

They also pointed out that over the last several years Baystate Health has invested in the Mary Lane campus, adding Healogics, a

Please see **BAYSTATE**, page 2

Family hopes for info to help solve murder

William J. Dziedzinski was murdered on Feb. 2, 2018

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – It’s been just over three years since William J. Dziedzinski was found dead on the sofa in the home he shared with his girlfriend, Julia Surprise, at 24 Clinton St., and his family is hoping anyone who knows more about it will come forward with information to solve it.

He died on Feb. 2, 2018, from blunt force trauma of the head and injuries to the neck, according to his death certificate.

“Someone in Ware has to know what happened, and it pains me that they are just allowing this turmoil and pain in our family,” said his daughter-in-law Amanda Dziedzinski, who has been acting as the family’s spokesman since it occurred. “What really brings me down is that someone knows and they continue to allow us to feel this way. I wouldn’t wish this on my worst enemy.”

Please see **MURDER**, page 6



Courtesy photos
William J. Dziedzinski, center, with his two sons, Michael Dziedzinski, at left, and Eric Dziedzinski, at right.

Fifth-grade to return to Ware Middle School

Additional school days begin soon

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – At its Feb. 17 meeting, School Committee members approved Ware Junior Senior High School hybrid students going to full school days for their two in-person days and adding a third in-person day for hybrid learners at all levels, which will be done on a rotating basis among cohorts. High needs students will attend school five days a week. The additional days will begin the weeks of March 8 and March 15.

School Superintendent Dr. Marlene DiLeo said the Department of Early and Secondary Education has given new guidance on school bus seating, allowing more children to ride one each bus, solving one of the obstacles to having all children return to in-person learning.

“It’s a great step forward,” she said.

Once COVID-19 regulations went into effect, the state said there could only be one student per bus seat, instead of the normal two, and every other seat had to remain empty. Now students from the same family and/or same cohort can share seats, although

masks must be worn as they have been since from the beginning, she said.

Due to some rearranging, the Ware Middle School will bring back all of its fifth-graders as of March 1, with six feet of social distance between them all, DiLeo said, and the change of the bus seating limits has helped make it possible. It is hoped that the full fourth-grade will return soon as well, she said.

If social distancing remains at six feet between students, it will be impossible to bring back all students, she said.

Grades

In a follow-up to student individual subject failure rates discussed at the last meeting, DiLeo said the following percentage of students failed at least one subject: 14% of fourth-graders, 15% of fifth-graders, 30% percent of sixth-graders, 50% of seventh-graders, 54% of eighth-graders, 53% of ninth-graders, 34% of 10th-graders, 36% of 11th-graders and 28% of 12th-graders.

Gaps

Academic and social-emotional gaps will be identified, DiLeo said, and the district is building a recovery plan to address them.

Please see **WARE SCHOOL**, page 10

Hardwick Pond invasive plant treatment to begin

Native endangered orchid found

By Paula Ouimette
Staff writer

HARDWICK -- Hardwick Pond Preservation Association President Gary Mascitis and Vice President Bill Zinni provided the Board of Selectmen with an update on the aquatic plant control treatment plan at the pond. The association

is a nonprofit organization formed to “restore, preserve and protect the ecological health of Hardwick Pond,” according to their website.

Back in 2018, the town helped the association secure a bond from the state in the amount of \$67,500 to remove the invasive aquatic plants, namely fanwort and milfoil, which are overtaking Hardwick Pond. During this time, they discovered an endangered orchid that is native to the area, growing from the sphagnum moss. The associa-

tion formed a team to put together a plan to show they can treat the invasive plants with herbicide, without harming the rare orchid. In 2019 they began phase 1 of this plan, by testing in a laboratory. After the success of phase 1, in 2020 the team moved onto phase 2, which was to ensure they would not harm the surrogate orchid. The report from phase 2 showed that the all of the surrogate orchids were unaffected by the herbicide.

Mascitis and Zinni said that

the phase 1 and 2 lab costs totaled around \$3,400 each. They are now working with their team to plan a field test on a five-acre area of the pond in May or June when the orchids bloom. The area would cover the southwest corner to the submerged island near the boat landing/parking lot. The cost to treat the five acres is \$14,000.

Zinni, along with biologists and botanists from the Natural Heritage

Please see **HARDWICK POND**, page 2

EVERETT ALLEN: LIBERATION, REPATRIATION AND A RETURN HOME

Editor’s Note: Last week, the Quaboag Current ran the first half of the chapter James J. Paugh has written about West Brookfield resident Everett Allen, and his service during World War II, which included time as a prisoner of war. Paugh is writing a book to be called, “It’s Enough for Any Man, 100 Stories: Allies POW’s in NAZI Germany.” It will recount 100 stories of Americans who were WWII prisoners of war. This installment covers liberation from the camp where he was a Prisoner of War and making his way to Allied lines, and his trip home. We thank Everett Allen for his service to our country, and Paugh for sharing the full story with our readers.

By James J. Paugh III

THE LONG MARCH

Six weeks later, on the evening of Feb. 5, Tech Sgt. Frank Troy, the Lager C leader, passed the word to all to be ready to leave camp in the morning. Around 9 a.m. on Feb. 6, roughly 8,000 souls began the 600-kilometer (380 miles) march from Stalag Luft IV in southwest Poland to places unknown. It has been called the death March, the black March or the long March.

For Everett, it lasted 86 days ending with liberation and repatriation. It took place during one of the coldest and snowiest winters in recent European history and then, turned warm, creating muddy, mucky and barely walkable roads.

They left the camp in groups of 200 to 300 ragged men and packed what they could from their barracks. Everett had a war-time log that had notes of his experiences, but he tossed it away. He had an overcoat that he would cut slits into to create big pockets to hold his food supplies. At the time, he smoked cigarettes and was certain to have spots for them. He brought his clothing and a blanket. The guards gave everyone two Red Cross parcels. Unfortunately, most of the goods were tossed as they all had to be carried by hand.

On Feb. 14, the Liverpool Daily Post reported that 12 prisoner of war camps containing roughly 60,000 men were on the move to central Germany ahead of the Russian advance. “The men were apparently moved on foot by daily stages between twelve and eighteen miles.” (STAFF 1945) As Everett said: “Our worst night



Sgt. Everett Allen of the Army Air Corps.

was at Swinemunde where we slept out in an open field in the rain after traveling 25 miles with no food or water. That was Feb 14th, and a night to remember.” (ALLEN, REPORT AS A PRISONER OF WAR 1945) Though they marched over 200 kilometers in the last week, things would continue to worsen for Everett and the men. Over the next 24 days, they would march another 270 kilometers on meager rations of food and water.

Hunger was a constant companion in not only the Stalag, but on the forced march. Dr. Caplan, the medical officer, was on the march with the men and he estimated that each man had about 600 calories per day.

Some nights the P.O.W.s would bed down in a barn or just out in an open-air field. Many times, they slept in fours to share body heat. The local farmers were worried that the lice-infested prisoners would cause disease to their own animals and some refused to let them into the barns.

Please see **EVERETT ALLEN**, page 5



P.O.W.s of Stalag Luft 4 on Feb. 6, 1945, as they start out on a long forced march. Everett Allen was held in Stalag Luft 4 during World War II.

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Indians strong season continues

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Agreement for marijuana microbusiness discussed

By Paula Ouimette
Staff writer

HARDWICK – Ralph Rogers, owner of Adroit Manufacturing, a proposed marijuana product microbusiness that would be located at 435 Lower Rd., Gilbertville, attended the Board of Selectmen meeting on Monday, Feb. 22 to discuss the proposed community host agreement draft. Rogers, accompanied by his attorney Paul Cranston, reviewed the draft and highlighted some areas they thought could be revised.

Rogers said he had a number of comments and asked the board if he could read through the draft and voice his concerns. Rogers said the proposed draft seemed to view his microbusiness as a large scale, marijuana cultivation business. He explained his microbusiness would allow him to operate with a “tier 1” cultivation and product manufacturing license. This is the lowest tier the Cannabis Control Commission issues. Rogers said his proposed microbusiness is not “big cannabis money.” Rogers said that his microbusiness is more of a “mom and pop” establishment.

In the proposed draft, the town set the impact fee at the maximum 3% allowed by the law. Rogers said he understands the town anticipates a financial impact from his company, but he does not. Rogers said his proposed site will not utilize town sewer or water. He would have no more than eight people employed, but most likely only four working at a time, so the traffic impact would be negligible. Rogers said a 2% impact fee would be more suitable.

Under annual community benefits, in which Adroit Manufacturing would be allowed to make additional donations to the town, “included by not limited to local drug abuse prevention/treatment/education programs, which the company agrees to additionally pay in the amount and under the terms provided therein.” Rogers said he did not have any issues with making additional donations to benefit Hardwick, but that he would like terms applied to it amended. The terms state “For as long as the establishment is in operation, the company shall pay to the town the sum of \$_____ annually.” Rogers wanted the “shall pay” removed

from the terms, as he said it felt more like a fee than a donation.

Rogers also said he did not want to pay a \$5,000 retainer to cover town legal costs associated with the establishment. He also felt the 2% impact fee would cover the costs incurred for public meetings and forums. Rogers also questioned why he would be paying for an independent financial audit (of the town’s choosing), when the town has already required certified accounting records.

The town proposed that Adroit Manufacturing use “best efforts” to hire Hardwick residents to staff the business. Rogers said he “loves the idea,” but is not expecting to have a staff of more than eight people. He felt this wording was geared toward a large, higher tier cultivation business, not his microbusiness. Rogers also said the CCC’s regulations and background/CORI checks were very stringent in determining who could be cleared to work in a cannabis establishment. Rogers said he is very passionate about educating the public about marijuana and its uses, and asked if the town had any educational programs in place.

Board of Selectmen Chairman Kenan Young suggested Rogers work with town counsel, Attorney Nicole Costanzo, to make amendments to the draft so it would better suit his microbusiness. Selectmen Julie Quink and Kelly Kemp agreed Rogers made some valid points. Costanzo requested that a town representative work with her and Rogers together. Young said she could reach out to him as a town representative. The board voted to approve Rogers working with town counsel by roll call vote; all were in favor. Rogers asked if he could now proceed with planning a public outreach meeting and the board said yes.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Planning Board Chairman Harry Comerford asked why the town counsel fee was increased to \$300 an hour. Costanzo said she would provide something in writing to Town Administrator Theresa Cofske about the fees. Comerford also said he would be happy to answer any questions about zoning if needed.

Are You Old News?



Each week the Ware River News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured.

Email your answers by Monday at noon to ekennedy@turley.com.

Last week's photo was of members of Ware's Cub Scout Pack 167, left to right, Paul Larson, Eric Connelly, John Cacula, Roy Bacon, Brett Cruselle and Eric Ellis, showing off their Pinewood Derby cars.

If anyone recognizes the people in this week's photo please send the identifications and your full name to ekennedy@turley.com.

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wound care practice, a revamped oncology center, updated gastrointestinal services and physician practices as well as other services, but patients did not get their care in Ware.

Gray and Keroack also acknowledged transportation is an issue for many in Ware, and pointed to the company’s donations of \$170,000 over the last five years to get the Quaboag Connector up and running, and to keep it going. It is a service for low-income riders in Ware and surrounding towns, which offers rides to work, school and medical appointments for a small fee each way. Gray said they would also discussing shuttle service between Ware and Palmer.

Smola, Gobi

The first audience speaker was State Rep. Todd Smola, R-Warren, who asked what was likely on the mind of many of the more than 100 people who attended the virtual event.

“How did we get to this place, in the middle of a pandemic with no notice to anyone,” he asked. Smola pointed out that Baystate officials had been concerned long before the pandemic about patient levels, but did not start a dialog with local officials or the community about those concerns.

“The real shame of all this is that the damage done to the relationship between Baystate and the community is irreparable,” he said.

Baystate officials made the announcement in late January, alerting local officials only a few hours before going public with the news, causing both Smola and state Sen. Anne Gobi, D-Spencer to protest the decision. He said Baystate apparently learned nothing from the process of ending in-patient and medical services at Mary Lane, and changing the Emergency Room to a satellite facility. At that time residents and officials complained that there was little to no communication with the community in advance of those decisions.

Smola said talking the community long before the final decision was made would have allowed the communities and officials “to sit

down and huddle, to talk about the best approach.”

Gobi also criticized what she viewed as a lack of communication and said she had dug out her notes from previous meetings with Baystate officials going back to 1985. She called Baystate’s blaming Mary Lane for not being able to keep physicians at the hospital “disingenuous,” and laid the blame at the foot of Baystate Health officials for being unable to keep physicians there since 1985.

Keroack and Gray both said physicians no longer want their own practices. They want to be in practices of six, eight, or 10 doctors, with easy access to specialists and laboratory services nearby, they said.

Ware SelectBoard member Keith Kruckas agreed, saying “we were completely blindsided with this.” He also said Baystate Health’s operations in Ware had been “smoke and mirrors here for some time.”

When he asked if the money remaining in the Gilbert Trust, which created Mary Lane Hospital, would be used to demolish the building, Keroack said no. Baystate would be working with its legal team to be sure the money left “goes to the medical care for the people of Ware and surrounding communities,” as the trust mandates.

There was \$6.5 million in the trust as of Sept. 30, according to the Internal Revenue Service Form 990 for Baystate Health Foundation.

Residents

Residents expressed their concerns about transportation, emergency services, connections made between Mary Lane and an array of social service providers and the sudden financial ramifications for Ware as Mary Lane is phased out.

Resident Jennifer Raiche asked why a new, state-of-the-art wing was being built at Baystate Medical Center, to be known as the MassMutual Wing.

Keroack said it will have state-of-the-art cardiac cath labs, replacement operating rooms and surgical beds because those things are needed. “It’s not an equivalent kind of investment,” Keroack said. He said all cardiac surgery

and much of the company’s cardiac care is offered in Springfield for all patients, not at its other hospitals.

Resident Lorri Horton asked about the effect on Ware ambulance service, which now has to go nine miles farther, and Gray said Baystate knows ambulance service and emergency medical services is very important in all towns. She said the company could offer pre-hospital medical care to area EMS providers, and Baystate is working with local fire chiefs and other EMS providers about how it can help them.

Luann Lauzier, a Ware resident, urged Baystate to use the money in the trust to keep Mary Lane in place. “There’s no reason to close it, we can do better,” she said.

Terrance Smith, who also spoke at the last Ware SelectBoard meeting on the topic, said the town and Baystate need to work closely together as there will be a fiscal effect on the town without sufficient time to plan for a response. He pointed out at the SelectBoard meeting that Mary Lane is the town’s largest water and sewer customer and suggested the company consider a payment in lieu of taxes of approximately \$225,000 as it does not pay real estate taxes as it is a non-profit.

Resident Mario Capolongo asked if an impact assessment will be done, and Keroack said the DPH requires one be completed for the regulatory closure process.

Cindy Gervais, who used to work at Mary Lane, said in hindsight closing its in-patient and medical services several years ago “was absolutely the right decision.” She said the patient census could vary from three to 28, and physicians were burning out. Now she realizes safe patient care was in jeopardy, she said, although she was one of the biggest proponents of keeping Mary Lane a hospital.

Gray assured participants that Baystate would create an orderly winding down of Mary Lane with town officials, and estimated the practices would remain for about 18 months as design and construction for them at Wing Hospital must first be completed.

Four candidates run for two SelectBoard seats

No other contested candidates

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – The race to fill Ware elected positions is on, with four people running for two, three-year seats on the SelectBoard. Alan G. Whitney and Keith J. Kruckas, who serve as chairman and vice chairman, respectively, of the board, are running for re-election.

Joshua A. Kusnierz, who is the town tree warden and a member of the Planning Board, is also running as is Caitlin Maureen McCarthy, who has her own metal art business.

There are no other contested seats this year.

The Town Election is scheduled for April 12, and all candidates have returned their papers to the town clerk’s office.

Moderator Kathleen H. Coulombe, is running for re-election to another three-year term as the person who

guides Annual and Special Town Meetings; School Committee members Michael C. Foran and Julie A.F. Slattery are running for re-election to three year terms; and John Desmond is running for a a three-year term on the Board of Health, where he has previously served, and he has served on the SelectBoard as well.

Kimberly E. Swarts is running for re-election to a three-year term as Park Commissioner, Craig R. Simmons is running for re-election to a three-year term as Park Commissioner and John E. Carroll is running for election for a one-year unexpired term as a Park Commissioner. Carroll has been serving a vacancy as Park Commissioner for most of a year now.

Richard A. Starodoj is running for re-election to a five-year Planning Board seat and Jonathan J. Hogan is seeking re-election to a five-year term on the Ware Housing Authority.

No one has submitted papers to run for the three-year term on the Board of Assessors.

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To participate in the survey, please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DBSJ69F>.

Corned beef dinner set for March 17

WARE – A St.Patrick’s Day corned beef and cabbage dinner will be held on Wednesday, March 17, from 4 to 6 p.m., at Trinity Episcopal Church, at the corner of Park and Pleasant streets.

The dinner includes corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots and bread for a \$12 donation per dinner. Take-out only is available. Please call 413-967-6100 to reserve meals with a name, the number of dinners wanted and a phone number to call. All proceeds benefit the mission and ministry of the parish.

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Hardwick Town Hall Notebook

By Paula Ouimette
Staff writer

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Board of Selectmen held a meeting Monday, Feb. 21, at 6:30 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.

They approved the following invoices to be paid out of Community Development Block Grant funds: Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Invoice #17 for services rendered to administer the fiscal 2018 Hardwick Assistance Program (Grant #00829) in the amount of \$1,452.31; Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Invoice #18 for services rendered to administer the fiscal 2018 Hardwick Assistance Program (Grant #00829) in the amount of \$633.85; Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Invoice #19 for services rendered to administer the fiscal 2018 Hardwick Assistance Program (Grant #00829) in the amount of \$905.26; and Clark & Green Architecture Design Invoice #6 for architectural services for the Hardwick Municipal Building architectural barrier removal in the amount of \$6,560.

FOSC letter

The board read and approved the letter proposed by the Friends of the Stone Church to send to the Massachusetts Historical Commission in hopes of securing preservation project funding for the Trinitarian Congregational Church (the Stone Church) in Gilbertville.

Police union contract

Officer Ryan Gentile of the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department said that the police union contract expires June 30 of this year. He asked the board for their input in preparing the contract proposal. Gentile offered to draft a one-year “bridge” contract due to financial uncertainties in town and beyond, in lieu of the standard three-year contract. The board agreed that a one-year contract would be a good idea for now and thanked Gentile and his fellow officers for being so accommodating.

Approval of licenses

The board approved the 2021 Annual Automatic Amusement License and the 2021 Common Victuallar License for the South Barre Rod & Gun Club, 2626, Barre Rd., Wheelwright.

ACCURACY
WATCH

The Ware River News will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 3. To request a correction, send information to ekennedy@turley.com, or call 967-3505. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Ware River News, Attn: Editor, 80 Main St., Ware, MA 01082.

Industrialist starts Mary Lane, names it in honor of wife

A history of Mary Lane Hospital and the Gilbert Trust

By Elena Palladino
Correspondent

With Baystate Health’s recent announcement that it plans to close the Mary Lane Outpatient Center by 2023, Ware is mourning the loss of a great institution. During its years of service to the community, Mary Lane has been a source of pride for the town as a top-quality health care provider.

The story of the hospital as we know it today began over 100 years ago with the Gilbert family and the Ware Visiting Nurse and Hospital Association.

The Gilberts were woolen manufacturers and philanthropists at the turn of the 20th century. Their influence is still felt today, from Mary Lane Hospital to Grenville Park, from the Young Men’s Library to the Gilbertville village of Hardwick. A look back at their legacy offers a glimpse into Ware’s history and a reminder of the significant impact one family can have on a community.

The Gilbert Family, 1841 to 1930

The Gilbert family’s wealth originated with manufacturing on the Ware River. In 1841, George Henry Gilbert purchased the property on the south bank of the Ware River along with his partner Charles Stevens. The company manufactured broadcloth and cloakings, its products so fine they were awarded the highest prize at the Great Exhibition at the Crystal Palace in London in 1851.

That same year, Gilbert & Stevens dissolved their partnership and divided their property, with Gilbert taking the buildings located at what is now 15 South St., in Ware, including the smaller church-like building (the company’s offices) and the mill building, where the corporate offices of Country Bank and the American Skate Company are currently located.

Gilbert’s new George H. Gilbert & Company manufactured high quality woolen flannels, and his nephew, Lewis Newton Gilbert, joined him in business in 1857. Three years later, in 1860, the Gilberts purchased land further up the Ware River in Hardwick, and changed the company’s name to the George H. Gilbert Manufacturing Company. The Gilberts then expanded their mills at the Hardwick site, which they named Gilbertville, and built residences and company amenities for their employees, whose numbers had increased to 1,000 between its two locations by 1900.

When founder George Gilbert passed away in 1869, Lewis Gilbert became president of the company. Lewis married Mary Dwight Lane, of Brimfield, on Christmas Day of 1864 in Ware. He became prominent in civic affairs, serving as a member of the state Senate from 1877 to 1878, and as moderator of the town of Ware from 1881 to 1911.

During his time as president of Gilbert Manufacturing Company, Lewis oversaw the design and construction of the stone church in Gilbertville, and paid for the building of the chapel, which was completed in 1885. He also helped to fund the Gilbertville Public Library. When Mary Lane Gilbert died in 1911, Lewis purchased the Deery home on South Street, now BHN Valley Services at 96 South St. in Ware, to be used as headquarters for the Ware Visiting Nurse and Hospital Association.



Mary Lane Hospital in Ware as it looked in 1923.

Another prominent member of the Gilbert family was George’s son, John Humphrey Grenville Gilbert, who also joined the family business in later years. J.H. served as president of Gilbert Manufacturing Company after Lewis, and remained with the company until it closed in the 1930s. J.H. was a founding member of the Young Men’s Library Association in Ware, and he donated the land on which the reading room of the current library is built. He also served as president of the Ware Savings Bank for a period of time.

J.H.’s only son, Grenville Brown Gilbert, died in 1901 of bronchial pneumonia at the age of 15 while away at St. Mark’s boarding school in Southborough. J.H. and his wife, Grace Gilbert, donated the land that’s now Grenville Park to the town of Ware in their son’s honor. After years of construction, the park was accepted by the town in 1907. The Gilberts donated additional acreage to the park in subsequent years to enhance and protect what has been called “Ware’s loveliest adornment.”

Ware Visiting Nurse and Hospital Association

Around the time that Grenville Gilbert died in 1901, the average life expectancy in the U.S. was just under 50 years. Grenville’s bronchial pneumonia was among the most common causes of death, which were influenza/pneumonia, tuberculosis and gastroenteritis.

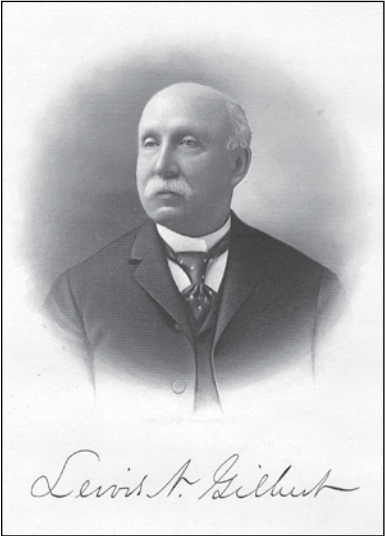
In the decades prior to 1900, visiting nurse associations were common in rural areas of the Northeast. Visiting nurses often provided free or low-cost in-home care to communities that might otherwise not have had access to quality healthcare. In 1903, Mrs. Henry K. Hyde, the president of Ware’s Social Science Club, engaged a visiting nurse to minister to the people of Ware. She paid the nurse an annual salary of \$688, and visits were low cost at just 25 cents. Six years later, in 1909, the Ware Visiting Nurse and Hospital Association was founded.

With significant advances in science and medicine in the first decades of the 20th century, the American health care and hospital system experienced accelerated growth across the country. With the support of the Gilbert family, Ware was no exception.

Building Mary Lane Hospital

Upon Lewis Gilbert’s death in 1919, he bequeathed his large South Street home and property to the WVNHA along with \$500,000 in trust to endow the hospital, so long as it “be forever known as ‘The Mary Lane Hospital’” in memory of his “beloved wife.”

Gilbert’s will states that with his



Lewis Gilbert, who named Mary Lane Hospital for his wife, Mary Dwight Lane, of Brimfield.

endowment he wished to allow the WVNHA to “suitably and more effectively care for the sick especially of the town of Ware and of the village of Gilbertville,” and to “provide hospital grounds and buildings where the sick may be properly cared for gratuitously or at a reasonable charge according to the circumstances of each.”

On March 31, 1920, the Board of Directors of the WVNHA accepted the legacies and benefits bequeathed in Gilbert’s will, and authorized the association to take steps to carry out Gilbert’s wishes to build “The Mary Lane Hospital” on his property using the donated funds.

In 1922, Gilbert’s Victorian home on South Street was demolished and H.P. Cummings was engaged to construct a new state-of-the-art hospital. The new 25-bed hospital building was completed in September of 1924. A year later in 1925, the WVNHA board voted to change the name of the association to the Mary Lane Hospital Association in honor of Mary Lane Gilbert.

Mary Lane’s future

From its founding and in accordance with Lewis Gilbert’s wishes, Mary Lane has served the need for affordable, quality health care in Ware, and its surrounding communities, for over 100 years. By 2023, just shy of the original hospital building’s 100th anniversary, Mary Lane as we know it today will no longer exist.

As of Feb. 29, 2020, the Gilbert Trust contained \$5.6 million, according to Hampshire County Probate records. When contacted for comment about future use of the Gilbert Trust, CEO of Baystate Mark Keroack stated that Baystate will



The Gilbert family home on South Street in Ware.



A nurse is pinned in front of the portrait of Mary Dwight Lane Gilbert in the Mary Lane Hospital.



Courtesy photos from the Ware Young Men’s Association Library
The Gilbert mill office on South Street, which now houses the American Athletic Co. in Ware.

seek appropriate legal approvals over the next two years to ensure that the continued use of the trust is consistent with Mr. Gilbert’s expressed wishes to provide health services to the residents of Ware and Gilbertville.

All of the Gilberts mentioned in this article are buried in Aspen Grove Cemetery, another town

landmark that the family contributed to over the years.

Even with the closing of Mary Lane, the Gilberts’ legacy will live on through the many institutions and individuals that have benefited from their civic and philanthropic generosity.

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EDITORIAL

Here’s a return to normalcy: It’s tax time!

February is drawing to a close and that means it’s time to turn the page to no one’s favorite subject – taxes. Some well-organized residents no doubt have already filed their federal and state returns in time for the first day of processing, which was about two weeks ago. The rest of us have until April 15. Take note of that date, because unless the U.S. Treasury Department or Mass. Department of Revenue make an unexpected change, the extended July deadline offered last year because of the pandemic is no longer an option.

Hey, we’ve all been wishing for a return to normalcy, right? Maybe not exactly what you had in mind, but it might make you feel better to consider this a step in the direction of life in a post-pandemic world.

Whether you prepare your returns yourself, pay an accountant or other professional, or have a friend or relative handle your tax filing, here are a few tips that could make this annual rite a little easier and perhaps help save you money:

First and foremost, get organized. Dust off your copy of last year’s return. If you don’t have it and can’t get a copy from your preparer, you can order it from the IRS. If you used one of the many online tax prep software programs, it’s likely archived there.

Gather all of your tax-related documents such as W-2s, 1099s, and other forms you need to prove the income you earned, including Social Security, pension payments, and unemployment benefits, and any withholding you selected. Give yourself a pat on the back if you had taxes withheld from the latter two because chances are you’ll get a bigger refund.

If you received federal stimulus payments, either one or both issued in 2020, the good news is they are not counted as taxable income. However, if you received less than the full amount in either or both of the two rounds of stimulus, that could impact your 2020 return, so you’ll want to be able to reference that information.

Did you keep all your receipts for charitable contributions, work expenses eligible for deductions and the miles you logged on your vehicle for work? If yes, give yourself another pat on the back. If not, you might want to invest some time in getting that together. Documentation of student loan interest paid last year and any debt that was charged off translate into credits and liabilities, too, so you’ll want that at your fingertips.

This is just a starter list. To get a comprehensive checklist of everything you’ll need to be ready for tax return preparation, go to irs.gov or contact your tax prep professional.

We have a resource for you that many might be surprised to learn about — AARP. Did you know the AARP TaxAide program provides IRS-trained volunteers to prepare returns for anyone who asks. Free of charge. This is not limited to members or even seniors in general. Taxpayers of any age can use this valuable service. They even handle returns for eligible small businesses. The only limitation is this program is intended for those in the middle-income bracket and lower. There is an income ceiling and those who exceed it are not likely to be eligible for the service.

For everyone else, it’s a well-regarded service that includes e-filing, which you want; It means faster processing and less time to get a refund if you’re due one. AARP suspended this program just about a year ago in response to the pandemic because the service was provided in-person at libraries, senior centers and other public facilities. Since then, they have had time to plan and adjust and AARP TaxAide now offers drop-off and virtual service using secure servers that protect your Social Security number and other vital personal information.

There are some in-person appointments, but none in our immediate area. For all the information about that program, go to tax-aide.aarpfoundation.org.

So, are you ready to “render unto Caesar?” If not, make it a priority. April 15 will be here before you know it.

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Email items to ekennedy@turley.com

This week we will delve into part 2 of the great milk jug seed starting experiment, posed by Barbara who wrote in last week wondering if I have had any success with this trendy technique.

Here are the nuts and bolts! Start with clean gallon containers, the see-through kind that water or milk come in. About four inches up, just below the handle, safely cut around the jug, leaving an inch or so on either side of the handle as a “hinge.”

You should be able to bend the top back and forth. Make a number of drainage holes in the bottom; three or four per quadrant. There is a lot of advice out there on how to do that, from drilling holes, to twisting an exacto knife around and around and even using a hot tool to melt a hole in the plastic (really!). I generally like to make holes in reused plastic containers by banging a large nail through the bottom into a piece of scrap lumber placed underneath.

Once the drainage holes are made, fill the bottom of the jug with moist seed starting mix. ‘Coast of Maine’ has recently become my favorite after a few years of trying out new brands. With the soil in place, sow your seeds. If the seeds are tiny or even relatively tiny, don’t cover them with soil, simply space them out evenly on top and press into the surface.

You may wonder how to deal with tiny seed. I place it in a folded index card and gently tap the card so that the seeds fly out. If you can handle the seed easily, do cover with only a small amount soil, say an eighth of an inch or so and firm down. How many seeds to sow is a tricky question. If you want to keep the plants in the jug until they go in the garden, then hope for four plants, maybe six per jug at the most, figuring how big they will be at transplant stage. For tricky germinators, perhaps double or triple the amount

of seed you sow versus how many you desire. If germination is great, you can always transplant some out. Close the container and seal it with duct tape. Be sure to label the jug with the plant name via a paint pen, really the only writing utensil that won’t smear, fade or wash away when exposed to the elements.

Place the jugs in full exposure outdoors and with the cap off, so that heat can escape and small amounts of moisture can penetrate. When the temperature outdoors heats up past 60 degrees, be sure to take the duct tape off and vent your seedlings. Check often and water as needed. The pros recommend to cover with a blanket if frost threatens or even move heat lovers inside on cold nights. To prevent tip-over by four-legged friends or

ON THE GARDEN



Roberta McQuaid

GUEST COLUMN

Good foreign policy is good domestic policy

By Lee H. Hamilton
Guest columnist

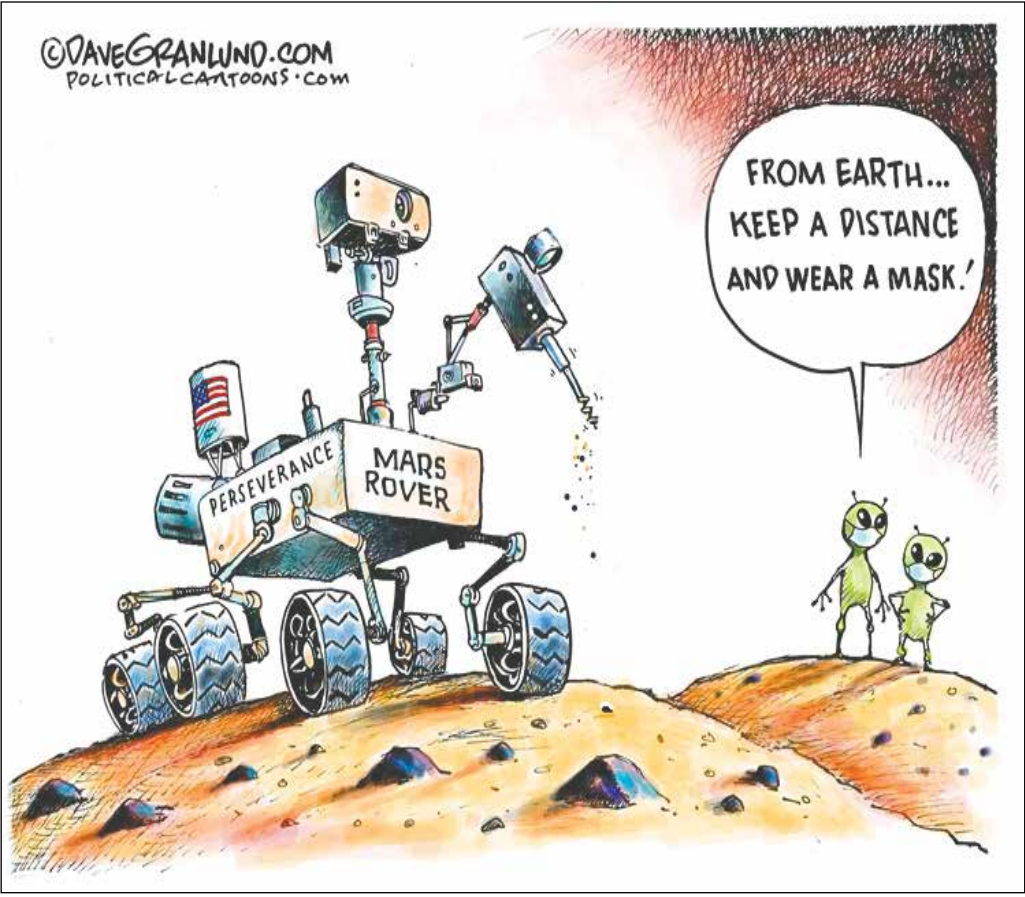
There was an interesting moment in Washington at the end of January, on Antony Blinken’s first full day as secretary of state. Meeting with the press corps that covers the State Department, he called an independent press “a cornerstone of our democracy,” and told the assembled reporters, “You keep the American people and the world informed about what we do here. That’s key to our mission.”

I have no doubt that there will be plenty of tense moments between Blinken and the journalists who cover U.S. foreign policy. But Blinken’s comment—meant to signal a change from the hostile relationship that developed under the previous administration—underscored a key facet of American diplomacy: what happens at home affects our posture and capabilities abroad. Just as important, how we conduct ourselves abroad says a great deal about who we are at home.

One way to think about this is to imagine a foreign policy that puts us at the forefront of curbing human rights abuses around the world or that makes certain that in cases of major natural disasters, the U.S. leads the way in providing disaster relief. These actions send messages about who we are as a nation, and as the American people, which resonate with ordinary people the world over, even if foreign regimes sometimes resent them.

Boiled down, we ought not to apologize for trying to do the right thing as a country. If we can be a factor for improvement and a force for good in the world, that will have profound consequences for the way the world looks at us and the way we look at ourselves. Trying to do good in the world is good foreign policy, and I would argue makes us stronger and safer at home.

But you can see the issue. We are only as



strong abroad as we are at home. A nation incapable of managing a pandemic response or riven by conspiracy theories and misinformation or unable to nurture its economy in ways that improve the lives of those who are not already wealthy will struggle to project strength and confidence abroad. That is because there is a direct line between the ideals we seek to communicate and our ability to practice them at home. I have never yet heard of “do as I say, not as I do” turning out to be a good strategy.

This is why I believe our struggles at home over basic democratic process, over the right to vote and the way those votes are counted, leave us weaker abroad. It is hard to take the greatest democracy in the world seriously when many of its elected leaders were willing to seek to overturn the results of a legitimate election, or when state leaders pursue policies aimed at limiting the ability of voters to cast their ballots.

In the end, you cannot separate foreign and domestic policy. They are different aspects of the same world. What you do with respect to one affects the other.

playful kids, pros also suggest putting the jugs in trays or bins.

As you can see, this method is not maintenance-free, but certainly worthy of a try especially for gardeners who are short on indoor space or in the mood to get their hands dirty earlier in the season than normal. January and February is the perfect time to start seeds that need a cold treatment. Look for key terms on the seed packet, such as “stratification needed,” “sow in the fall,” or other terms.

You can begin to sow cold hardy annuals in March- think chard, spinach, kale, snapdragons, bachelor button and the like, while April should be reserved for warmth-lovers like pepper, tomato, basil, zinnias and marigolds, paying special attention to frost predictions and bringing these plants in as needed.

Well Barbara, thank you for the great topic! I promise to give this method a try and will report back my successes and failures.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.

WARE RIVER NEWS



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The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

2021Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

Pensions and government pension offsets

By Russell Gloor
Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: I am a retired Texas teacher receiving my state pension. I retired in February 2009, before the end of a “loophole” which affected my future Social Security. I had earned enough credits to receive Social Security benefits in addition to my Teachers Retirement System pension. At 62 I began getting my Social Security benefit, which was reduced by my TRS pension.

My husband didn’t start his Social Security until last year, at which time I contacted Social Security so my benefits would “no longer be reduced” as per the TRS loophole. I have spoken with the local Social Security office three times and sent them the documents requested, but my Social Security payment remains the same! How do I bypass the local office to get my benefit increased to the amount I was told when I retired under this Texas loophole?
Signed: Wanting My Increase

Dear Wanting: Your question requires

some explanation of two Social Security rules known as the Windfall Elimination Provision, or WEP, and the Government Pension Offset, or GPO. These rules affect anyone, like you, with a pension from an employer which did not participate in Social Security, and who is also eligible for Social Security benefits. WEP applies to your personal Social Security retirement benefit; GPO applies to any spousal (or survivor) benefit you might become entitled to.

There are 27 States (including Texas) which, to varying degrees, have exempted some state employees from paying into Social Security.

But for employees who, nevertheless, also become entitled to Social Security benefits, either from other Social Security-covered employment or a spouse, WEP and GPO will affect their Social Security benefits. Both rules apply to you because you did not contribute to Social Security while you earned most of your TRS pension. Your Social Security retirement benefit was reduced by WEP and, since your

husband is now collecting Social Security, you might be entitled to an additional amount as his spouse, depending on whether the GPO will apply. The GPO did originally contain a “loophole,” but the loophole didn’t work as you think it did.

When the GPO was first enacted in 1977, it included a rule known as the “last day exemption.” That rule stipulated that if, on your last day of employment prior to retirement, you contributed to both your non-covered pension and to Social Security under the same plan the GPO would not apply. State retirees in many of the 27 affected states took advantage of that loophole. That is, until Congress changed the GPO rule to eliminate the loophole.

A change in 2004 eliminated the “last day exemption” and replaced it with a rule saying that a GPO exemption would occur only if the employee contributed to both the non-covered pension and Social Security under the same plan every day for the last five years prior

Please see **PENSIONS**, page 10

EVERETT ALLEN from page 1

At the point, staggering, slipping and in near complete exhaustion, Everett was ready to give up and fall to the back of the line. It was rumored if you fell back, due to the occasional gunshot would be heard causing the marchers to assume the worst.

Midway between Swinemunde and Alten Grabow, just as things became bleak for him and the hundreds of other prisoners, he heard, in the distance, the sound of bagpipes. Yes, two Scottish P.O.W.s managed to stake out a spot and played loudly for all to hear. To Everett, this was the sound of freedom; not to give up but reach deeper finding inner strength to continue.

The march continued another 18 days covering 150 kilometers to where they boarded a train at Uelsen, Germany taking them to Alten Grabow, Stalag XI A. While on a rest break in a barn on Good Friday March 30, Everett and his friend from Worcester, Richard Gordon, developed a menu for Easter Sunday. It was a full day of repast! Breakfast at 6:30 a.m. at Lavigne's Diner, coffee and doughnuts with plain and fancy pastry over to the House of Hathaway at 9:30, early lunch at 11 with champagne and shrimp cocktails at Cosgrave's Chop House. After a brief rest, at 2:30 onto the Crown Luncheonette for ice cream with hot chocolate followed at 4 p.m. by hotdogs with dessert at Homer's Lunch. A sumptuous dinner was planned at the Coronado Hotel with roast turkey and all the fixings at 7 p.m., and at 9:30 p.m., they would head over to the Lido for hot roast beef sandwiches, fries, coffee, and pudding. Finally, wrapping up their day back at Lavigne's Diner for coffee and sandwiches at 1 a.m. Alas, these restaurants of Worcester are no more, but Everett can remember the making of the menu and the "taste" of the feast. Many P.O.W.s had such cravings for home food and shared recipes from memory amongst their friends.

They remained here for another two weeks, then marched another 100 kilometers to Annaburg.

His diary shows meager entries for food, water or other nourishment. He contracted dysentery that had a major impact on him as well as much of the column in the forced march. One of the most dehumanizing events in the march was the effect of dysentery and uncontrolled defecation. After one got over the embarrassment, many men just let it occur during the march.

LIBERATION, REPATRIATION

Dysentery drained much of Everett's strength and the guards compassionately placed him in a hospital in Annaburg on April 19. Though liberated by the Russians on April 24, he remained in the hospital two more days.

However, liberation was in name only. While the Russians liberated, they also blocked passage across the Elbe River to Allied lines.

Everett then joined the company of three other men. British soldiers, Robert C. Liddon, of the Rifle Brigade, Thomas Manders, of the Queens Regiment who were both liberated from Stalag XX-B and endured their own 550 kilometer walk, and, Howard Skaggs Jr, 351st BOMB Squadron from Joplin, Missouri, a fellow Stalag Luft IV prisoner. The group of four began a circuitous route for the next 12 days through the Russian-occupied German countryside, stopping in Falkenburg, GroBrossen, Muhlburg, and Kotten.

But fortune was smiling upon the group! According to Everett, "Our food supply is beaucoup, namely because we have two English boys who know how to get around. We have had, goat, pork, chicken, rabbit, and plenty of peas, spuds, onions, etcetera. Living like Kings on the fat of the land!" Through creation of Ancestry family trees, research shows that Liddon was a peacetime butcher, and Manders, a peacetime baker.

As they worked through the various villages, they came to one house, now vacant, and moved in. Everett and Skaggs went scrounging into what was the Burgermeister's house. Everett was upstairs exploring and finding the official hat and chain of office. He decided to wear the regalia to show them off to his friend. Just as he began to walk down the grand stairwell in a regal fashion, a couple of Russian soldiers came in the house. They saw who they thought was an official German Burgermeister. One Russian opened fire in Everett's direction.



A shot of "A" Lager, the backs of barracks 1, 2 and 3, at Stalag Luft 4, where Everett Allen was held as a P.O.W.

Everett dropped the regalia and bolted the house. He can now laugh as he thanks God that the Russian was so drunk the recoil of the gun forced the soldier to the ground and the bullets went into the ceiling... but Everett and his companions were well on their way out of town.

Eventually on May 5, they were making their way across the Elbe on a Russian pontoon bridge from Pulsverda to Wessnig, Germany. Everett took the initiative, grabbed a bicycle, and rode to the American lines in Torgau, some 10 miles away. There he was able get help and have a truck return to pick of the other three men.

Finally repatriated, that next morning he enjoyed his first taste of G.I. food in nearly a year and a wonderful bull session with the men he just met. By May 14, he and many others were sent onto Camp Lucky Strike for "fattening-up" and medical care. Many coming off from P.O.W. camps were significantly underweight, and Everett was no exception. Of note, here Everett is provided his replacement uniform, which today, he still proudly dons at Memorial Day and Veterans Day Observances.

As reported in the book, "My Three Years with Eisenhower" by Capt. Harry Butcher, on an hour's notice on May 22, Eisenhower decided to visit Camp Lucky Strike after hearing reports that the recovering P.O.W.'s actually had better accommodations in the prison camps than under U.S. care. His C47 flew to a former German airfield near the camp where black sedans pulled up to the plane to bring Ike and his party to the camp. Ike jumped in a Jeep and as his entourage, mostly U.S. senators seeing this, leave the sedans and jump in jeeps as well. The entourage drops in the Mess for lunch with a number of ex-P.O.W.s. After lunch, Eisenhower walks the nearly two miles back to the airbase through the main road of the camp stopping to shake hands every third or forth man. In mid-afternoon, Everett witnesses the Supreme Allied Commander working his way through the camp.

As Eisenhower prepares to leave, he pulls aside the camp commander and states that every man needs to feel better about himself and to give them all haircuts. He orders 40 barbers to the camp.

After another three weeks, Everett returned to the United States aboard the Liberty ship, the S.S. Patrick Henry on June 20, and arrived at Fort Devens in Ayer for discharge on June 25, 1945, ending his military commitment.

EPILOGUE

It can indeed, be said, that it is a small world. When the author first learned about Everett Allen, it was on a television broadcast over Memorial Day in 2020, as he was being honored in a drive by salute by his friends and townspeople of West Brookfield. The author immediately reached out to interview Everett for inclusion in this P.O.W. research effort. Part of the author's youth as an 8 and 9-year-old was spent exploring every inch of that small town, living with his family on Allen Street. The street was named for Everett's uncle who had sold off his farm for a small housing development of fifties and sixties ranch houses. West Brookfield had few stores, but one, the Wheeler General Store took care of the needs of a small boy with comic books, penny candy, plastic glue-together model airplanes and the occasional grocery order for his mother. Everett was a clerk, and the author swears that a kind man would wait on him on Saturday, allowance day, showing him the various model planes, including the B24. While those memories can be created from fog, the next small world connection is solid.

Everett held many jobs during his working life. Living in Worcester before the war he worked at Norton Company. Returning home, he worked at Wheeler General Store and at a paper company in Ware. Our paths permanently crossed when the author learned that for 35 years, he



Turley Publications courtesy photos A memorial brick in West Brookfield, which Everett Allen and his wife, Blanche, purchased to thank the people of the Netherlands, who hid him before he was arrested by German soldiers.

worked as a Keyway machinist for Warren Pumps Inc of Warren. The author's father was chief mechanical engineer eventually rising to vice president of engineering and chief operating officer. Their paths crossed daily within the pump shop. Everett's P.O.W. experience was even showcased in the pump shop newsletter, "Chips and Curls." Both the author and Everett enjoyed reminiscing about friends of the past...his view as an adult and the author's as both child and adult.

No one could slight Everett for holding a grudge and anger against his mean-spirited captors or, worse, the woman who betrayed him. He has memorabilia, books, and a sharp memory for his time in fighting for and securing freedom in World War II. At one point, he had compiled a many-paged dossier on the Nazi collaborator but made the decision to discard the research and relegate her to a mere footnote in his life's story.

Indeed, his war experiences helped sharpen Everett's compassion and respect for others and proved to him that belief in goodness overcomes evil.

In his own words: "...we went through so much and all the problems like that, that, uh, you just have that faith that you can do it. You can, you can come home."

Paugh may be reached at info@tothefifty.com and he is always looking for World War II soldiers who were kept as prisoners of war by Germany and Japan who may wish to talk about their experiences.

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Quaboag special education return to classrooms

District continues to plan for in-person classes

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARREN – Quaboag Regional School Superintendent Dr. Brett Kustigian told School Committee members Monday that all special education students will be offered the opportunity to return to in-person learning.

He also said he has been advised by both the West Brookfield and Warren boards of health to not set a definite date for returning all other students to full-time, in-person learning.

"It's fluid, it's ever-changing," he said. "We are talking weekly, if not daily about it." Pooled testing went into effect this Tuesday at West Brookfield Elementary School, which gathers tests samples from 10 people at a time to test more people more quickly and efficiently. Anyone identified as being positive for COVID-19 gets an additional test to determine positivity. Anyone who then tests positive must quarantine as do anyone with close contact with that person. Pooled testing will be added to Quaboag Regional Middle High School and Warren Community Elementary School next week.

Teachers must also receive COVID-19 vaccines, but they have to become eligible under the state's guidelines. After giving first responders and health workers vaccines, the state has since opened up registration to those 75 and over, along with their younger companions, as well as those 65 and over and others with two or more commodities, such as diabetes, asthma or obesity among a range of other issues.

Kustigian said the rules around how many students may ride the buses and how many students may sit in the same seat have been expanded, allowing more students to get to school. The six-foot social distancing in class remains in place, he said.

West Brookfield mother Jennifer Goodale asked committee members what parameters or benchmarks will be used to get all children back in school.

School Committee Jason Morgan said the district can't offer a definite matrix that will drive when school will be open for in-person classes for all. "It depends on vaccinations and other things," he said. "We don't have a firm timeline."

He said social distancing has not changed from six feet to three feet, and working out offering lunches safely at the high school needs to be determined as well.

Kustigian said COVID-19 rates in Warren and West Brookfield are

moving in the right direction, with Warren in the yellow zone now and West Brookfield in the green zone. Both had been in the red, higher-risk zone for a several weeks running beginning in December and going into January.

Grandparent Doreen Piechota said all children need to be back in school. "We need to give them in-person schooling with teachers who are veterans, we need to move this along," she said. Extending the school day was one of her recommendations so students could get additional instruction.

Kustigian said the teachers' contract spelled out the school day to a certain extent and the memorandum of understanding between the district and the teachers' union calls for teachers being vaccinated before all students return to class.

He also said the district has a mediation session with the teachers' union on March 11 about demanding teachers to return to teaching in the classrooms following more than two weeks of the towns being in the COVID-19 red zone. The MOU stated that after two weeks in the red for the towns that make up the district, as well as those towns sending School Choice to Quaboag, learning should switch to fully remote.

Following the meeting the Committee went into executive session to discuss mediation with the Quaboag Educators Association, which is the teachers' union.

Build a legacy at the Warren Historical Commission

WARREN – Collectors and readers of Warren history admire the work of those who've gone before. The way they built their houses and helped develop the town, the old hotels and taverns, schools, banks and town halls. We've collected photographs, advertising pieces, historical accounts and artifacts. All these items were created by Warren people who were living and working here. It is their legacy. But now what will we leave

behind?

Those who serve on the Warren Historical Commission can contribute their knowledge and efforts and leave their mark on the town records. Anyone who would like to create their legacy for future generations to admire should contact the Warren Selectmen and ask to be appointed to the Warren Historical Commission. Or, drop a line tosgbuck37@verizon.net to inquire for more information.

Nancy Curtis Scholarship available

WARE – Applications are now available for the Nancy Curtis Scholarship in the Ware, Palmer, and Belchertown Public Schools Guidance Department.

Deadline for completion of the application is April 5, and should be forwarded to Mrs. Sandra Piechota, 269 Palmer Rd., Ware, MA 01082.

Scavenger hunt set for March 6

WARREN – Warren Parks & Recreation are holding a spring scavenger hunt on March 6, with a four-hour time limit. The clock starts ticking as each competitor picks up their packet with rules from the Shepard Municipal Building on High Street on that day between 1 and 2 p.m.

This is a COVID-friendly event for residents of Warren and West Warren.

Teams must pre-register and teams should consist of each person's "family bubble."

Teams that register online will receive 10 points in addition to the points they earn.

Teams that donated canned goods or other non-perishable items at the time of their packet pick-up will receive one point for each item they donate, up to 15 points per team. The items will be donated to a local charitable organization.

Mail-in entries may be sent to Warren Parks & Recreation (Scavenger Hunt), P.O. Box 609, Warren, MA 01083.

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Free intro to manufacturing offered

Unemployed due to COVID-19 targeted

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

COVID-19 has torn through the economy as companies had to dial back their services or products in the wake of the pandemic, change their business models and furlough or lay off employees left and right to make it. Others just shut down entirely. While some people have been able to find work, there are plenty of workers who haven't been able to, and the state wants to help.

For those who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19 and remain unemployed, the MassHire Career Centers in Holyoke and Springfield are offering free virtual manufacturing training classes. They will help participants learn about career manufacturing, basic manufacturing standards, manufacturing processes, basic blueprint reading, quality control processes and tips on teamwork. The career centers used to be known as the state's One-Stop Shop for employment needs for those looking for work and employers.

Participants must have a high school diploma, Internet connectivity with streaming capability, be unemployed due to COVID-19 and have a device such as a laptop, desktop computer or tablet to access the internet. It is also compatible with cell phones. Instructor coaching is also provided.

"The last two governors have been very invested in what they can do to maintain or grow manufactur-

ing as an industry in general," said MassHire Career Center Holyoke President and CEO David Gadaire said.

With COVID-19 translating to job losses for many, it was decided to target those who have lost their jobs as layoffs and business closures began last March as restaurants, gyms and other businesses were temporarily closed and then able to start up in reduced capacities, he said.

"We think many people wrongly have this picture of what manufacturing is all about, with idea that it's dirty," he said. "But many manufacturers have pristine processes, for which mathematics is needed and their manufacturing is really a science.

He said starting wages are good and it's possible to make a sustainable wage and move through company ranks to get ahead.

"The classes are a guide, to counsel them as to what to expect in manufacturing, the kind of math needed and so they candidly will know what's going on," he said. "It's also designed to get people off unemployment and help them move into what could be a good career."

The classes are self-paced and offer tips on who work as a team member, how to address concerns that come up on the manufacturing floor and problem resolution, Gadaire said.

Businessman Joseph Peters, a member of MassHire Hampden County Workforce Board, has been in manufacturing for decades, and decided to test drive the classes to be sure potential students would get useful information about manufacturing if they took them.

"It provides exposure to manufacturing machines, safety protocols among other things," said Peters, who owned Universal Plastics in Holyoke up to a few years ago, and who remains active in the company. "I think someone who has gone through this would be looked at differently than someone who hadn't taken it when it comes to the hiring process. I would be much more interested in someone who had taken this course. Our company is looking for people right now and this would give someone a lot of advantages."

Peters said these days many young students are not exposed to manufacturing at all and are unfamiliar with it either generally or specifically. That exposure differs from when he was young, when many people knew people in manufacturing even if their immediate family wasn't involved, he said. The classes provide that exposure if they've never had it in school or in the workforce," he said.

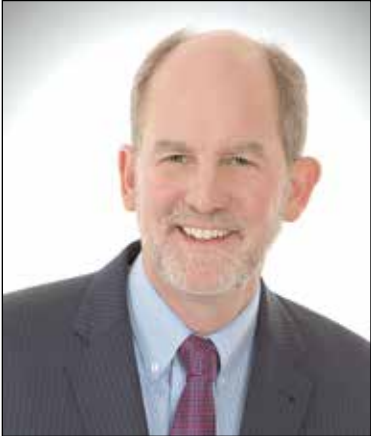
"He's lived manufacturing and breathed it his whole life, and in my mind that makes his opinion about it very credible," said Gadaire of Peters' opinion that it gives potential job seekers a way into manufacturing.

For more information or to register for the classes contact Kate Smith at MassHire Holyoke at 413-322-7162 or Ksmith@masshire-holyoke.org or Yvette Jackson at MassHire Springfield at 413-858-2827 or yjackson@masshirespringfield.org.

The funding for the classes was provided by the state Office of Housing and Economic Development



Miriam Siegel



Tom Wolcott



Dawn Fleury

Country Bank announces executive promotions

WARE – Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving central and western Massachusetts, announced three executive promotions within the bank's senior management team.

Dawn Fleury, CPA, has been promoted to first senior vice president of corporate risk. She joined Country Bank in 2012; before joining the bank, she held a 21-year career with the FDIC as a commissioned senior bank examiner.

In her current role, she oversees the bank's comprehensive risk management programs, including compliance, corporate risk, internal audit, BSA fraud, commercial credit, commercial loan workout and residential collections departments.

Miriam Siegel, CCP, CBP, has been promoted to first senior vice president of human resources and chief diversity officer. Joining Country Bank in 2018, she brought 26-years of professional experience as the senior vice president of human resources for United Bank. In her current role, she oversees all aspects of the bank's human resource initiatives, as well as driving talent management strategies to lead the bank's learning and development team. She also proudly serves on the board of Behavioral Health Network in Springfield and serves on the Wilbraham Personnel Advisory Board.

Tom Wolcott has been promoted to first senior vice president of the commercial lending and business banking divisions. He joined Country Bank in 2019 after a pre-

vious career in the financial services industry that spanned over three decades; this included senior vice president roles at Peoples United Bank, United Bank, Citizens Bank and FleetBank, primarily in the Connecticut, Springfield and Worcester markets. His background offers extensive expertise in managing diverse and complex commercial clients as well as assisting small businesses with creative solutions to help them achieve their financial goals.

"Promoting these talented members within our existing leadership team strengthens our foundation for the future," said Paul Scully, president and CEO of Country Bank. "Dawn, Miriam and Tom have proven to be immensely skilled leaders and have been strategic partners in major decisions we have made at Country Bank. I am excited they will be taking on additional responsibilities in their expanded roles to help further drive our strategic direction and growth. They each exemplify Country Bank's iSTEP corporate values of integrity, service, teamwork, excellence and prosperity."

Country Bank is a full-service mutual community bank serving central and western Massachusetts with 14 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton, and Worcester. Country Bank is a member of FDIC, DIF, and the SUM network.

MURDER from page 1

Dziedzinski said her father-in-law was one of those people for whom no one had a bad word. "The best way to describe him is that he was a big teddy bear of a man," she said. "He loved his grandkids and he loved his boys, and he was invested in our family."

She said her children saw him often, and her 7-year-old daughter still remembers him, but her younger child was only 2 when the murder occurred. Dziedzinski is married to Eric Dziedzinski, who has two other brothers, Michael and Adam Dziedzinski, and a sister, Sarah Delisle.

"He had a good heart, I've never heard anyone say anything negative about him," she said. "The people who worked with him at the hospital really enjoyed working with him." He worked at Mary Lane Hospital, where he was a maintenance supervisor.

In addition to no arrest being made yet, the Dziedzinski family is frustrated because they say they rarely hear from the district attorney, and when they do, it is after they have been calling the office with questions about the status of the case. She did say the district attorney's office reached out sometime

Tuesday, and said they would like to have a Zoom meeting with family members.

She also said the family found out about how he died after his injuries were described in a newspaper article, not from authorities.

"Mr. Dziedzinski's death continues to be under investigation," said Mary Carey Tuesday, a spokesperson for Northwestern District Attorney David Sullivan. "We cannot disclose any specific details regarding that ongoing investigation. However, we have been, and will continue to be, in contact with the victim's family as any developments unfold."

While answers as to what happened and who committed the murder are important, Dziedzinski said, the murder itself has changed their lives forever.

"You'll never get over this, a death like this hits you differently," she said. "Because it wasn't just a death; so many things were stolen from all of us. My oldest remembers him and she'll remember things out of the blue, but to lose your first grandparent this way isn't right."

Dziedzinski said her father-in-law deserves justice and the family will keep pressing for his murder to be

solved. "I don't want him to be forgotten and I don't want it to be just another crime," she said. "We will literally do anything to assist authorities solve this."

Anyone with information about the case is encouraged to contact the Northwestern District Attorney's Office at 413-586-9225, and ask for the State Police Detective Unit.



William J. Dziedzinski holds two of his seven grandchildren. The family is hoping anyone who knows something about his 2018 unsolved murder will call State Police with what they know.



William J. Dziedzinski, playing with two of his grandchildren, who were 7 and 2 at the time of his murder on Feb. 2, 2018.

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Keith Smith takes to the air for a layup.



Camden Balicki dribbles his way down the court.



Dom Velazquez extends for a shot.

Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

LUDLOW – On Feb. 10, Ware boys basketball faced Ludlow on the road and won 71-60. The Indians have had a very successful

shortened 2020-2021 season with a 6-1 record. Dom Velazquez led the scoring against Ludlow with 20 points while Keith Smith

had 19 points. Ware has since beaten Ludlow again and split a pair of games with Division 1 Amherst Regional.

Indians strong season continues



Andrew Soltys reaches over a pair of defenders to get his shot on the basket.



John Soltys makes his way up for a layup.

Panthers capture 'pod' playoff final

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BARRE—Just like in the semi-final game against Oakmont 24 hours earlier, the Quabbin girls varsity basketball team built a double-digit lead at the end of the first quarter in the Central Mass. Pod 6 finals.

The top-seeded Panthers, who led third-seeded Leominster, 14-2, after the first eight minutes of the contest, managed to hang on to the lead the rest of the way for a 47-40 home victory, last Thursday night.

“We usually started the first quarter either very slowly or incredibly fast during the regular season,” said Quabbin head coach Evan Barringer. “I thought it was very important for us to get off to a quick start in the finals against Leominster. They upset second-seeded Fitchburg on their homecourt in the semifinal game and they just kept battling against us. It was just a great high school basketball game.”

The Panthers, who finished the season with an 11-1 record, defeated fourth-seeded Oakmont 42-23 in the semifinal game. They wound up winning their final twelve games of the season, including the two playoff games.

“Even though we won the championship game, everyone on our team was emotional afterwards because our season was over,” Barringer said. “All of the players worked so hard and it was a very special season for us.”

In the first quarter of the two Pod playoff games, the Panthers outscored their opponents 30-3.

“Our defense was just incredible in both of the playoff games,” Barringer added. “We really didn’t know how to play man-to-man defense at the beginning of the sea-

Please see **PANTHERS**, page 8

Pioneers drop pair to Wolves



Stephanie Koslik makes an off-balance shot.

SPRINGFIELD – When the Pathfinder High School girls basketball team was finally able to take the court, they definitely showed signs of rust. The girls struggled in a pair of games Feb. 12 and 16 against Hampden Charter, losing 44-25 and 44-19. The Pioneers struggled to move the ball around the court and could not find its shooting. Pathfinder still has a pair of games against Ludlow before ending its shortened season.



Allyson Dube extends on a shot.



Allyson Dube tries to dribble toward the sideline.

Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

High School football set to start

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – While the vaccination effort is ongoing, there is still a need to make modifications to high school sports and football will be no different.

High school football games are finally set to commence next month and those that are able to watch games will not see a major difference in how the games are played other than what happens behind the scenes and on the sidelines.

Like all sports currently, football players will be required to wear face coverings. In the last couple of months, variants of COVID-19 coming from the United Kingdom and South Africa have resulted in a more contagious mutations of the virus. As a result, people have been advised to wear multiple or multi-layer face coverings now. The MIAA is not allowing gaiter face coverings, but are not currently requiring the multi-layer coverings. Football players wear full helmets with some also wearing splash guards.

The guards are being encouraged as they provide an additional layer of protection.

Larger teams like Longmeadow, Central, and Holyoke will have limits to the number of players they can bring to the sideline. A maximum of just 45 players will be allowed to dress for games and be on the sidelines.

In many high school games, players are injured and unable to play, often wear their jerseys to the field and are on the sidelines

Please see **FOOTBALL**, page 8

Outlaw open entry lists loading up for Icebreaker, Thompson 300

THOMPSON, Conn. — The Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park oval is shaping up as the place to watch the biggest stars of Tour-Type Modified Racing in 2021. Entry lists for both the Icebreaker 125 on April 10/11 and the return of the Thompson 300 on October 9/10 are already loaded with local, regional, and even national open-wheel racing headliners.

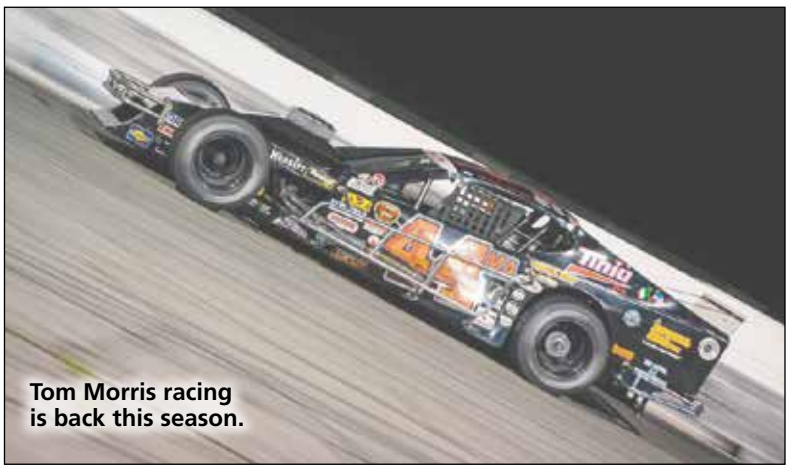
As the first and last events of the season at the historic Connecticut track, both the Icebreaker and the Thompson 300 are expected to be the year’s two greatest shows. The early entries back up these expectations with a mix of touring series champions, track champions, and big-time winners in the Modified ranks. With so many top drivers ready for

action, the buzz that has surrounded the events for months will only get louder.

Leading the roll call is six-time NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour champion Doug Coby of Milford,

CT. The modern Modified legend has filed entries for both the \$10,000-to-win Icebreaker 125 and the \$20,000-to-win Thompson

Please see **RACING**, page 8



Tom Morris racing is back this season.

Nominees for volleyball hall announced

HOLYOKE – The list of 25 nominees for the International Volleyball Hall of Fame 2021 Induction has been announced and the Fan Vote presented by Mizuno is now officially open through Feb. 28.

Fans can vote daily for as many nominees as they feel are deserving of Induction. The top 5 nominees selected by the public will comprise a “fans’ ballot” that will be tallied along with the official selection committee ballots to pick the Class of 2021 inductees.

“These 25 nominees represent 11 different countries and some of the biggest names in volleyball from the past two decades and beyond.” said George Mulry, Executive Director of the International Volleyball Hall of Fame. “Having to skip the 2020 class of Inductees because of COVID has created a bit of a backlog that’s resulted in perhaps the strongest list of nominees top to bottom we’ve ever had. I think it’s going to be

really hard for people to narrow down their Fan Vote selections but it will also make this year’s Induction that much more special for the selected class.”

The new class of Inductees will be announced in March and the 2021 Induction Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 23 and will be live streamed for anyone that cannot travel to Holyoke. Induction Celebration tickets will go on sale when the new class is announced.

The nominees are: Taismary

Aguero, Dr. Rolf Andresen, Manuela Benelli, Gianfranco Briani, Julius Brink and Jonas Reckermann, Dr. Gabriel Cherebetiu, Sergio Dutra Santos, Giovane Gavio, Linda Hanley, Barbara Jelic-Ruzic, Pieter Joon, Siegfried Kohler, Peter Lange, Andre Meyer, Samuele Papi, Carmelo Pittera, Bernardo Rezende, Todd Rogers, Yumilka Ruiz, Ricardo Santos, Clay Stanley, Sergey Tetyukhin, Logan Tom, Fernanda Venturini, and Elaine Youngs.

MIAA official recognized for leadership by NFHS

FRANKLIN – The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) selected eight leaders in state high school associations to receive an NFHS Citation. This award honors individuals who have made contributions to the NFHS, state high school associations, athletic director and coaching professions, the officiating avocation and fine arts/performing arts programs. The NFHS Citation is one of the most prestigious achievements in high school athletics and performing arts.

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) is extremely proud to announce the NFHS

2021 Section 1 Citation recipient: Sherry Bryant, associate executive director of the MIAA.

During her 30-year career at the Associations, Bryant has served as Financial Controller, Director of Human Resources, Technology Advancement Leader, and Liaison to a number of sport Committees including, Field Hockey, Basketball, Gymnastics, Skiing, Tennis, Softball, and co-liaison for Rugby. Bryant has also provided leadership through her service to the MIAA Tournament Management Committee, MIAA Blue Ribbon Committee on Gender Equity, the MIAA Covid-19 Task Force, and MIAA

Women and Girls Leadership initiatives. At the national level, she has served two terms on the NFHS Field Hockey Committee most recently as chair, is a leader in the NFHS/USA Field Hockey Advocacy Group, and has been appointed to the NFHS Strategic Planning Committee.

MIAA member, Field Hockey Committee Chair, Coach and retired Rockport High School Athletic Director Mary Ryan stated, “Sherry is hands-down the ultimate professional and so deserving of the NFHS Section 1 Citation. Her commitment, dedication and tireless work ethic on the local, state and national levels on behalf of our stu-

dent-athletes, athletic directors and coaches is beyond reproach. I have the utmost respect and admiration for all that she does in the quest of Educational Athletics. I have been so fortunate to call her my colleague and friend.”

According to MIAA Executive Director Bill Gaine, “Sherry Bryant’s 30-year service to the MIAA membership as well as being a key Senior Executive teammate has been outstanding. I am very pleased her contributions to our NFHS Section 1 colleagues and NFHS Association have been recognized and will be celebrated.”

RACING from page 7

300. Coby will compete at the Icebreaker in the #20CT Modified Rick Czarnecki. For the Thompson 300, he will be behind the wheel of his own Doug Coby Racing #10CT car that debuted in 2020.

Coby is one of multiple drivers planning to do double-duty with the Icebreaker and the NASCAR Modified Tour event at Virginia’s Martinsville Speedway on April 8. Another is multi-time NASCAR Modified and Modified Racing Series (MRS) winner Eric Goodale of Riverhead, NY. Goodale, who is currently competing in the World Series of Asphalt Stock Car Racing at Florida’s New Smyrna Speedway, is looking forward to keeping the Thompson Modified tradition alive.

“I love racing at Thompson,” Goodale said. “It’s one of my favorite tracks. I’m excited to do it. The thought to go into a Modified season and not have a Modified race at Thompson would be a bit disturbing. This is the stuff I grew up on, and I’m finally getting to live it everyday. I’ll be leaving Martinsville, heading home, switching the car over and heading right to Thompson for a double-header weekend.”

Several other notable names have already joined Coby in committing early to both the Icebreaker 125 and Thompson 300. Multi-time Thompson Speedway champion and former NASCAR Weekly Racing Series national champion Keith Rocco of Berlin, CT will be gunning for the two five-figure first prizes in his familiar #57CT. So will former Modified Racing Series (MRS) and International Supermodified Association (ISMA) champion Jonathan McKennedy of Chelmsford, MA. Others who beat the crowd with their entries include 2011 NASCAR Whelen Modified



Submitted photo

Bobby Santos will look to compete in the upcoming Icebreaker race.

Tour champion Ron Silk, two-time MRS champion Chris Pasteryak, and recent MRS winner Ronnie Williams.

The Icebreaker entry list alone, meanwhile, is nearing two dozen names with two months still to go before the event. One driver that everyone will have their eyes on is Franklin, MA’s Bobby Santos III. Santos has become the dean of big-money open-wheel events in recent years, winning everything from the Musket 250 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway to the Little 500 at Indiana’s Anderson Speedway. At the Icebreaker 125, Santos will be in the cockpit of the #44MA Tinio Racing car he has piloted to 11 NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour victories.

Other high-profile names preparing for the Icebreaker 125 are MRS champion Anthony Nocella, recent World Series Modified Open winner Mike

Christopher Jr., many-time Modified winner Richard Savary, and former Pro-4 Modified standout Derek Robbie. While their Thompson plans remain to be seen beyond the Icebreaker, a good start could certainly spur them to attend more of the planned big-money events.

The Icebreaker 125 is the opener of the new Thompson Outlaw Open Modified Series for 2021. The six-race series includes the annual Icebreaker, the Thompson 300 as part of the World Series of Speedway Racing, and four Wednesday night events held between June and September. The Wednesday events will pay a minimum of \$5,000 to win; meanwhile, the Icebreaker and Thompson 300 have guaranteed top prizes of \$10,000 and \$20,000, respectively. All told, more than \$250,000 in purse money will be posted at these six races.

The Icebreaker 125 and

Thompson 300 entry forms, along with the rules for the Outlaw Open Modified Series, have been posted at www.act-tour.com/outlaw-open-modifieds(link is external). The early-entry deadlines are March 15 for the Icebreaker 125 and April 15 for the Thompson 300. More information about the series will be released throughout the season.

Thompson Speedway opens its 82nd season with the 46th Icebreaker on Saturday, April 10 and Sunday, April 11. The Icebreaker 125 is part of a nine-division that also includes all of Thompson’s local divisions plus the Pro All Stars Series Super Late Models, NEMA Lites, and EXIT Realty Pro Truck Challenge.

The full event schedule and ticketing info will be announced in the coming weeks. All local and state health and safety guidelines are in effect.

FOOTBALL from page 7

to cheer on teammates. Those players will not be allowed in the Fall 2 season in order to limit the number of people on the sidelines of games. Only 45 players and a maximum of six coaches will be allowed on the sidelines along with other game personnel, like officials, the chain gang, and athletic trainers.

The 45 players on the sideline will be required to have face coverings at all time and must be socially distant from one another.

The coin toss, which usually features multiple captains going to midfield, will only feature one player from coach team and the referee.

During games, when the action gets intense, players and coaches will often crowd the sideline. This will not be allowed and will be strictly enforced. Referees are being instructed to assess penalties if warnings to be at least two yards away from the sideline are not adhered to.

There will be more time to account for the need for players to have water breaks and

catch their breath. Timeouts are extended to two minutes long. Intermissions between quarters will also be longer. Water breaks will also be instituted around the six-minute mark of each quarter, though referees can declare a water break around that time during a change of possession.

A schedule for the football season has yet to be released, though it has already been determined there will be no tournament. The same has applied to the fall and winter seasons.

A few athletic directors have already said traditional Friday

night football is unlikely to occur during the Fall 2 season due to the colder temperatures. Right now, nighttime temperatures are consistently in the 30’s, unlike the normal fall season where it is still much warmer until November.

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday afternoon games are likely in order for players to be able to play some of the games in the sun and slightly warmer temperatures. The Fall 2 season will be continuing into April.

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Athlete of the Month

Aidyn Welsh

WARE

Congratulations to Aidyn Welsh, who scored her 1,000th career point earlier this month for the Indians.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Month, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.

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Sign-ups now available for Relics softball

LUDLOW – The Western Mass Relics has opened registration for the 2021 Senior Softball Season. The Silver Division (age 50 to 64) has filled 36 of the 112 spots and the Gold Division (65-and-up) has filled 32

of the 96 spots. The registrations are accepted on a first come first serve basis. All our games are played at the Fish & Game in Ludlow. For further information or to register go to <http://www.westernmassrelics.org>.

PANTHERS from page 7

son, but the girls slowly kept improving in each game.”

Quabbin senior Julia Hamel posted a double-double in her final high school basketball game. She scored a game-high 18 points and pulled down 12 rebounds. She also was credited with 6 assists.

“During the second half of the Leominster game, especially during the fourth quarter, there was nine high school players on the court and one college player,” Barringer said. “Julia played very well in the championship game.”

The only other senior listed on the Quabbin varsity roster is Kacie McCreadie.

“Kacie was the most improved player in our program and she started every game this season,” Barringer said. “She and Julia were our co-captains. They were our leaders, and they helped the younger players on the varsity team.”

The Panthers other three starters in the finals were junior Ashley Leighton (9 points), sophomore Olivia Rose, and junior Jordyn Gillon (9 points).

After falling behind 2-0, Hamel gave her team a 6-2 lead by burying a pair of 3-points from almost the exact same spot on the right side of the court.

“Julia has been an unselfish player all season long,” Barringer said. “She began the game by hitting two very big three-point shots for us.”

The score remained the same for the next five minutes, as both teams had trouble putting the ball into the basket.

Freshman Meaghan Doyle, who also reached double digits in the finals for the home team with 11 points, ended the dry spell offensively with a 3-pointer from the left side.

With 42 seconds left in the opening quarter, Gillon extended the Panthers lead to 12-2 after sinking another long bomb from the top of the key. She made a total of three 3-pointers in the game.

“We went 4-for-7 from three-point land in the first quarter against Leominster,” Barringer said. “It was incredible.”

As the final seconds of the opening quarter was ticking off the clock, freshman Riley Bassett delivered a downcourt pass to Hamel, who scored

a fast-break lay-up before the buzzer sounded.

Leominster outscored Quabbin, 11-4, during the second quarter and were only trailing 18-13 at halftime.

“Leominster played a man defense when we faced them earlier in the season,” Barringer said. “I was surprised when they came out in a zone defense against us in the finals. They switched back to a man defense in the second quarter, which gave us a lot of trouble.”

The Panthers took 17-13 lead thanks to another 3-pointer from Gillon with 1:20 left in the half.

“Every single time that we’ve needed a 3-pointer this season, Jordyn has made it for us,” Barringer said. “She hardly ever misses that shot.”

Doyle also made a free throw making the halftime score 18-13.

The Panthers, who held the lead throughout the third quarter, pretty much put the game away with an impressive 8-0 run at the start of the fourth quarter.

Hamel, who’s being recruited by several Division 3 college coaches, began the run with an old fashion three-point play. A couple of minutes later, Leighton delivered an entry pass from the top of the key to Hamel, who finished the play with an outstanding reverse lay-up.

“Whatever college Julia decides to attend and play basketball, she’ll most likely be a starter by her junior season,” Barringer said. “She’s going to be a much better basketball player in college because of the coaching and the competition she’s going to face at that level.”

With 6:15 left in regulation Doyle drained a 3-pointer from the left corner extending the Panthers lead to 41-27.

Leominster (6-6) couldn’t get any closer than six points the rest of the way.

The other members of the Quabbin girls’ varsity basketball team are junior Hannah Dowd, junior Jorji LaViolette, junior Madison Leroux, junior Lauren Olson, and junior Olivia Ure.

The assistant coaches were Chris Novek, and Brian Smith.

With eleven returning varsity players, the Panthers will be looking to have another winning season during the 2021-22 campaign.

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Ware Police Log

Monday, Feb. 8
8:22 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:25 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:30 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:33 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:40 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:43 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
9:01 a.m. Hang-up 911 Call South Street – Services Rendered
9:33 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Parker Street – Citation Issued
9:46 a.m. Ambulance Request Eagle Street – Services Rendered
12:23 p.m. Ambulance Request Old Gilbertville Road – Services Rendered
1:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Main Street – Written Warning
2:09 p.m. Fraud South Street – Services Rendered
3:34 p.m. Ambulance Request West Main Street – Services Rendered
6:06 p.m. Alarm Burglar Palmer Road – Services Rendered
8:03 p.m. Ambulance Request West Street – Referred to Other Agency
8:20 p.m. Accident, Vehicle Ware Road – Referred to Other Agency

Tuesday, Feb. 9
2:12 a.m. Parking Complaint North Street – Citation Issued
3:01 a.m. Ambulance Request South Street – Referred to Other Agency
7:35 a.m. Ambulance Request North Street – Services Rendered
7:42 a.m. Alarm Burglar Robbins Road – Services Rendered
7:49 a.m. Vandalism South Street – Services Rendered
8:06 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:29 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
10:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Main Street – Written Warning
11:12 a.m. Ambulance Request Palmer Road – Services Rendered
11:45 a.m. Accident (Hit and Run) Main Street – Motor Vehicle Accident Over \$1,000
11:53 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Main Street – Written Warning
2:15 p.m. Accident, Vehicle Main Street – Motor Vehicle Accident Over \$1,000
7:35 p.m. Disturbance West Street – Investigated, Report Filed
8:27 p.m. Ambulance Request Vigeant Street – Referred to Other Agency

Thursday, Feb. 11
7:41 a.m. Ambulance Request Valley View – Services Rendered
10:02 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Upper Church Street – Written Warning
10:22 a.m. Ambulance Request South Street – Services Rendered
1:07 p.m. Ambulance Request Warebrook Drive- Services Rendered
1:26 p.m. Ambulance Request Valley View – Services Rendered
4:04 p.m. Ambulance Request Dale Street – Services Rendered
4:07 p.m. Trash Dumping Complaint West Street – Services Rendered
5:50 p.m. Ambulance Request Aspen Street – Services Rendered
7:03 p.m. Ambulance Request Monson Turnpike Road – Referred to Other Agency
8:02 p.m. Ambulance Request Greenwich Plains Road – Referred to Other Agency
11:54 p.m. Burglary/Breaking and Entering North Street – No Police Services Necessary

Friday, Feb. 12
3:28 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Bellevue Avenue – Citation Issued
6:45 a.m. Harassment Complaint Kennedy Road – Services Rendered
11:35 a.m. Stolen Vehicle Report Palmer Road – Investigation Pending
11:39 a.m. Fraud North Street –

Services Rendered
2:26 p.m. Trash Dumping Complaint Church Street – Services Rendered
5:39 p.m. Ambulance Request North Street – Referred to Other Agency
5:41 p.m. Ambulance Request Highland Village – Services Rendered
6:20 p.m. Ambulance Request Morse Avenue – Services Rendered

Saturday, Feb. 13
1:59 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Main Street – Citation Issued
2:21 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Chestnut Street – Citation Issued
11:04 a.m. Ambulance Request Lagoon Road – Services Rendered
12:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Church Street – Written Warning

Sunday, Feb. 14
9:53 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation East Street – Written Warning
5:35 p.m. Ambulance Request Sunny Hill Drive – Services Rendered
5:42 p.m. Ambulance Request Otis Avenue – Services Rendered
6:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation East Main Street – Criminal Complaint Issued
7:27 p.m. Fire, Report Hillside Village – Services Rendered
8:28 p.m. Ambulance Request Meadow Heights Drive – Services Rendered
10:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Street – Citation Issued

Sunday Feb. 15
9:34 p.m. Ambulance Request West Street – Referred to Other Agency
9:39 a.m. Ambulance Request Maple Street – Referred to Other Agency
9:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Church Street – Written Warning
10:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Mechanic Street – Written Warning
11:16 a.m. Fraud North Street – Services Rendered
7:20 p.m. Ambulance Request Valley View – Services Rendered
7:28 p.m. Accident, Vehicle Upper Church Street – Motor Vehicle Accident Over \$1,000
7:35 p.m. Accident, Vehicle Upper Church Street – Services Rendered
8:08 p.m. Ambulance Request North Street – Services Rendered
11:02 p.m. Harassment Complaint Dale Street – Services Rendered
11:35 p.m. Ambulance Request Turkey Street – Referred to Other Agency
4:54 a.m. Accident, Vehicle Belchertown Road – Services Rendered
4:59 a.m. Accident, Vehicle Belchertown Road – Services Rendered
9:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Walnut Street – Citation Issued
11:29 a.m. Ambulance Request Warebrook Drive – Services Rendered
6:05 p.m. Accident, Vehicle West Street – Motor Vehicle Accident Over \$1,000
6:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Main Street – Written Warning

Wednesday, Feb. 17
2:40 a.m. Ambulance Request Anderson Road – Referred to Other Agency
3:01 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Dale Street – Citation Issued
3:17 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Chestnut Street – Citation Issued
4:30 a.m. Parking Complaint Barnes Street – Citation Issued
8:06 a.m. Ambulance Request Walnut Street – Services Rendered
9:58 a.m. Larceny, Theft Report Pine Street – Investigation Pending
12:08 p.m. Ambulance Request Aspen Street – Services Rendered
12:10 p.m. Ambulance Request Pulaski Street – Services Rendered
1:07 p.m. Ambulance Request Sorel Road – Services Rendered
2:26 p.m. Ambulance Request South Street – Services Rendered
3:56 p.m. Trespassing Complaint Otis Avenue – Services Rendered
4:32 p.m. Ambulance Request

Editor's Note: People in this country are presumed to be innocent until found guilty in a court of law. Police provide us with the information you read on this page as public record information. If you or any suspect listed here is found not guilty or has charges dropped or reduced, we will gladly print that information as a follow-up upon being presented with documented proof of the court's final disposition.

South Street – Services Rendered
4:44 p.m. Missing Person North Street – Services Rendered
5:15 p.m. Missing Person North Street – Services Rendered
6:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Warren Road – Citation Issued
6:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Main Street – Written Warning

Thursday, Feb. 18
12:41 a.m. Missing Person Cherry Street – Services Rendered
3:35 a.m. Alarm Burglar Palmer Road – Services Rendered
4:53 a.m. Parking Complaint Otis Avenue – Citation Issued
7:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Church Street – Citation Issued
8:17 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Main Street – Criminal Complaint
12:55 p.m. Ambulance Request North Street – Services Rendered
2:34 p.m. Ambulance Request Morse Avenue – Services Rendered
6:30 p.m. Investigation North Street – Investigation Pending
7:08 p.m. Ambulance Request Palmer Road – Services Rendered

Friday, Feb. 19
9:49 a.m. Ambulance Request Chestnut Street – Services Rendered
11:47 a.m. Abandoned, 911 Call Beach Road – Services Rendered
12:03 p.m. Ambulance Request Morse Avenue – Services Rendered
6:47 p.m. Accident, Vehicle Babcock Tavern Road – Motor Vehicle Accident Over \$1,000
8:21 p.m. Ambulance Request North Street – Referred to Other Agency

Saturday, Feb. 20
9:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Church Street – Written Warning
10:58 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Belchertown Road – Written Warning
3:15 p.m. Ambulance Request Belchertown Road – Referred to Other Agency
10:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Street – Citation Issued

Sunday, Feb. 21
2:33 a.m. Parking Complaint North Street – Citation Issued
7:38 a.m. Ambulance Request Pleasant Street – Services Rendered
9:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Main Street – Written Warning
9:46 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Main Street – Written Warning
3:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation East Main Street – Written Warning
3:53 p.m. Accident (Hit and Run) Palmer Road – Investigated, Report Filed
4:03 p.m. Ambulance Request Bondsville Road – Investigated, Report Filed

Monday, Feb. 22
1:33 a.m. Alarm Fire North Street – Referred to Other Agency
7:24 a.m. Missing Person North Street – Services Rendered

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Ware River News

Domenica M. DeSantis

WARE – Domenica M. (Izzi) DeSantis, 94, of Ware, died on Monday, Feb. 22, 2021, at her home surrounded by her family.

She was predeceased by her husband of 70 years, Frank P. DeSantis, in 2018. They had a special relationship that endured until the day he died. They loved each other dearly, in good times and in bad, and both enjoyed a wonderfully long and fulfilled life together.

She leaves her daughters, Gloria Goddu, and her husband, David, of Thorndike, Rosemarie Parker, of Ware, and her son Frank Jr., of Ware; her grandson, Robert John Harnois, of Ware, and three granddaughters, Leslie Archambault, and her husband, Eric, of Belchertown, Kristin Fiola, and her husband, Andrew, of Medway, and Alyssa Parker, and her husband, Luke, of Medway. She also leaves four great-grandchildren, Mason and Luke Archambault and Jackson and Raegan Fiola; several nieces and nephews, and her brother, Ken Izzi, of Chicago. She was predeceased by her siblings, Mary Galvin, Angie Whigham, Carmella Chapin, and Basil and Santos Izzi. She was born in Barre, and has lived in her same home for 73 years.

Domenica worked in the Woolen Mills in Barre when she was younger, and also as a seamstress at the former Seven Sisters in Ware. She was



Death notices

DeSantis, Domenica M.
Died: Feb. 22, 2021
Funeral Service: Feb. 27, 11 a.m.
Charbonneau Funeral Home
Ware

Pelletier, Elizabeth
Death: Feb. 7, 2021
No services at this time

a loving and giving woman, always wanting to be with her family. She was a wonderful homemaker, raising her family and looking after Frank. She enjoyed cooking for large gatherings held at her home, making apple pies for Frank, as well as crocheting, gardening and sewing. She and Frank would travel to enjoy polka dancing, and were always a hit at the family weddings. She was a member of the Daughters of Isabella and the Golden Age Club.

Her family is very grateful to her caregivers, Laurie, Kathy, and Val.

A funeral service for Domenica will be held on Saturday, Feb. 27, at 11 a.m. in Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St., in Ware. A calling hour will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. prior to the service. Burial will be in New St. William Cemetery in Ware. Masks must be worn and social distancing guidelines followed while in the funeral home and at the cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to All Saints Church, 60 South St., Ware, MA 01082. Please notate the memorial gift in Domenica's name for the "Tiffany High Altar Window Project" in the memo line.

An online guest book is available at charbonneauh.com.

Elizabeth Pelletier

GILBERTVILLE – Elizabeth Pelletier, 46, of Gilbertville, unexpectedly passed away on Feb. 7, 2021. She was born in Northampton, and grew up in Palmer, where she attended Palmer Schools, graduating in 1992.

She was a waitress at several area restaurants for many years, most recently, The Whistle Stop and Statz, and made a number of friends among her regular customers.

Elizabeth joined the Catholic Church in 1995. Most recently she worshiped at St. Augustine Mission in Gilbertville.

Liz is survived by her sons, Grant and Mason Pelletier-Biggs, of Gilbertville and Cameron Pelletier, of Palmer; Phillip Biggs, of Gilbertville; her par-



ents, Edward Pelletier and his wife, Helen, of Worthington, and Deborah Pelletier, of Palmer; her sisters, Susannah Pelletier, of Reno, Nevada, and Misty Bernier, of Chicago, Illinois; her grandfather, Eugene Bernier, of Silver City, New Mexico; her cousin, Crystal Burnham, of Arizona; Jim and Dawn Farquhar, of East Longmeadow; Jackie Biggs, of Ware, several other cousins and many friends.

Her sons' interests were her greatest interest. She supported Mason's interest in the performing arts, making sure he had dance and guitar lessons, and that he was able to perform in plays at the Barre Players Theater. She encouraged his successful effort to go to the Pioneer

Valley Performing Arts School. Grant's greatest interests are the Boy Scouts, agricultural mechanics and machine operations. He attends Smith Vocational Agricultural High School. Liz supported his vocational education, activities, projects, camping trips and his trip to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. She frequently traveled with Grant and Mason to visit relatives in Arizona and New Mexico. Liz loved animals of all kinds, and at present had three dogs and four cats. She also enjoyed growing flowers. Trips to Rhode Island beaches with the boys were frequent in the summer.

No services are currently planned. Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield, is assisting her family with arrangements. An online guestbook is available at varnum-funeralhome.com.

Tri-Parish Community Church news

NEW BRAINTREE – For those who could not make it to the Tri-Parish Community Church service at the New Braintree Congregational Church on Sunday, Feb. 21, guest pastor Rev. Kathleen Fitzgibbons brought an enjoyable and thought-provoking sermon on Jesus' childhood. Also, her children's story, "Puppies," went over well with both the young and the "young at heart." It was also great to have the piano alive with church music by Holly

Bartelmann.

At the Zoom Feb. 18 church meeting it was suggested that if COVID-19 ever allows, it would be nice to start a children's choir. Anyone interested should call the church office at 508-867-3306. Besides preaching, Fitzgibbons is assisting the Tri-Parish on possibly finding a part-time pastor – anyone interested!

Another possible Zoom church meeting will be held on March 4, at 6 p.m. Anyone wishing to par-

ticipate should send their contact information to triparishcc@gmail.com.

The Feb. 28, 10 a.m., Tri-Parish Community Church service will be led by Deacon Ginny Rich at the New Braintree Congregational Church. Masks and social distancing are required. Everyone is invited. Pastor Kathleen Fitzgibbons will speak the next Sunday, March 7 – same place, same time.

The family/team at Statz Restaurant and Lounge, 341 N Main St., North Brookfield MA, has generously offered to host and cater a Memorial Social in honor of
ELIZABETH C. PELLETIER
to be held on Monday March 1st from 3 to 7 p.m.

Trying to arrange in a respectful manner, an occasion that would include all whom might wish to attend while not risk leaving anyone out by invitation and capacity restrictions; has been something of a challenge.

So long as we maintain a fluid environment for the occasion, as some are arriving, others are departing or gathering and mingling inside and out, capacity should not be an issue.

The event is intended to allow for all of you to come and share your comfort and grief with the family and maybe make new friends as well. Tell a story, offer a hug, wipe away a tear.

Understanding the Covid-19 world we live in, mask wearing and social distancing should be employed, while we enjoy some light fare and hors d'oeuvres provided by the establishment.

Please share this message with all of those who knew Liz and come help us celebrate her life in a winter Covid-19 responsible manner.

It is our hope that in the spring when warm weather is upon us, we can all gather outdoors for a celebration of life the way Liz would have it (tractors, veterans, motorcycles and of course Springsteen!), perhaps on her birthday May 2nd.

A most gracious thank you to all of you that offered support in anyway; helping us through a minute, an hour, a day, will never be forgotten. Thank you and see you at Statz!

Cameron Pelletier, Grant Pelletier-Biggs, Mason Pelletier-Biggs, Susannah Zanna Pelletier, Deborah Pelletier and Edward Pelletier



public safety

Hardwick Police Log

For the week of Feb. 8-22, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department conducted 211 building/property checks, 15 emergency 911 calls, 20 radar assignments, 44 directed/area patrols, three motor vehicle accidents, one identity theft, one trespass, two scams, one safety hazard, three complaints, four animal calls, 19 traffic controls and 22 motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

- Monday, Feb. 8**
4:30 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Lower Road – Citation Issued
- Tuesday, Feb. 9**
7:32 a.m. Initiated – Suspicious Activity Mellon Road – Could Not Locate
9:49 a.m. 911 Misdial Lower Road – Spoken To
9:59 a.m. Phone – Snow Ban/ Parking Violation Main Street – Spoken To
3:26 p.m. Radio – Motor Vehicle Accident Lower Road – Services Rendered
- Wednesday, Feb. 10**
1:50 p.m. Phone – Trespass Patrill Hollow Road – Unknown Outcome
2:05 p.m. 911 – Motor Vehicle Accident Turkey Street – Investigated
- Thursday, Feb. 11**
1:10 p.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Church Lane – Transported to Hospital
- 9:53 p.m. Phone – Fire Alarm Old Petersham Road – Services Rendered
- Friday, Feb. 12**
8:23 a.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Main Street – Transported to Hospital
- Saturday, Feb. 13**
11:55 a.m. 911 – Disturbance Upper Church Street – Spoken To
4:15 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Written Warning
9:27 p.m. Phone – Fire Alarm Prospect Street – Services Rendered
- Sunday, Feb. 14**
12:01 p.m. 911 – Medial Emergency Delargy Road – Transported to Hospital
5:37 p.m. Phone – Medical Alarm Hardwick Road – Transported to Hospital
6:38 p.m. 911 – Misdial Chagnon Road – Services Rendered
- Monday, Feb. 15**
8:55 p.m. 911 – Misdial Hardwick Road – Investigated
- Tuesday, Feb. 16**
1:21 a.m. Phone – Complaint Hardwick Road – Dispatch Handled
- Wednesday, Feb. 17**
4:59 a.m. 911 – Motor Vehicle Accident Lower Road – Transported to Hospital

- 9:01 a.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Petersham Road – Dispatch Handled
5:25 p.m. 911 – Scam Highland Terrace – Officer Handled
- Thursday, Feb. 18**
7:06 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Lower Road – Written Warning
11:26 a.m. 911 – Welfare Check Church Lane – Spoken To
5:44 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Citation Issued
- Friday, Feb. 19**
11:06 a.m. Initiated – Identity Theft Sessions Road – Officer Handled
1:22 p.m. Phone – Scam Delargy Road – Spoken To
4:20 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Lower Road – Citation Issued
5:06 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Arrest(s) Made
- Saturday, Feb. 20**
12:58 p.m. 911 – Complaint Church Lane – Spoken To
1:46 p.m. 911 – Complaint Church Lane – Dispatch Handled
- Sunday, Feb. 21**
9:34 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Written Warning
9:54 a.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Turkey Street – Transported to Hospital
- Monday, Feb. 22**
12:44 p.m. 911 – Misdial Uley Road – Officer Handled
- Tuesday, Feb. 23**
3:33 p.m. 911 – Assist Citizen Harrington Road – Services Rendered
- Wednesday, Feb. 24**
12:44 p.m. 911 – Misdial Uley Road – Officer Handled
- Thursday, Feb. 25**
3:20 p.m. 911 – Motor Vehicle Accident Barre Road – Transported to Hospital
- Friday, Feb. 26**
6:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire Mass Pike – No Fire Service Necessary
9:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
- Saturday, Feb. 27**
12:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire Old West Warren Road – Vehicle Towed
5:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Citation Issued
- Sunday, Feb. 28**
12:54 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
3:11 p.m. Sick/Unknown Winthrop Terrace – Transported to Hospital
8:58 p.m. Sick/Unknown Winthrop Terrace – Ambulance Signed Refusal
- Monday, Feb. 29**
4:41 a.m. Breathing Difficulty Coy Hill Road – Referred to Other Agency
4:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Milton O. Fountain Way – Citation Issued
7:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire East Road – Ambulance Signed Refusal
7:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire Cronin Road – No Action Required
- Tuesday, Feb. 30**
6:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire Mass Pike – No Fire Service Necessary
9:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued

New Braintree Police Log

For the week of Feb. 8 to 22, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department conducted 47 building/property checks, 19 radar assignments, six motor vehicle stop, 60 directed/area patrols, nine traffic controls, five motor vehicle accidents, three animal calls and six emergency 911 calls in the town of New Braintree.

- Wednesday, Feb. 10**
5 a.m. 911 – Motor Vehicle Accident Barre Road – Transported to Hospital

- 7:42 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Accident Barre Road – Report Taken
9:58 a.m. 911 – Motor Vehicle Accident Gilbertville Road – Vehicle Towed
- Friday, Feb. 12**
7:39 a.m. Phone – Notification Bernard Whitney Road – Arrest(s) Made
- Sunday, Feb. 14**
12:37 a.m. 911 – Motor Vehicle Accident Uley Road – Services

1234567891011121314151617181920212223242526272829303132333435363738394041424344454647484950515253545556575859606162636465

CLUES ACROSS

1. Ancient Persian city

5. Spindles

11. Stake

12. Retrain

16. Close by

17. Commercial

18. One who publicly announces

19. American ballplayer

24. Junior's father

25. Go up or climb

26. Concern

27. When you hope to get there

28. Iacocca and Oswald are two

29. Plant of the lily family

30. Male college organization

31. National capital

33. Raccoonlike animal

34. Symbols of fertility

38. Astronomy unit

39. Series of ridges in anatomy

40. Hebrew leader

43. A portent of good or evil

44. Supreme goddess

45. Gelatinous substance

49. Engage in a contest

50. Famed ballplayer Ruth

51. Pledge

53. __, denotes past

54. Revival

56. Spanish surname

58. Gold

59. Elsa's sister

60. Workplace

63. Large quantity of something

64. Engraved

65. Discount

CLUES DOWN

1. Shoe

2. Disquiet

3. Posture

4. Large nests

5. Soviet "Second Symphony" composer

6. Joins two pipes of different diameter

7. Exist

8. Overdose

9. Pleat of fabric

10. Predict the future

13. Burgeoning technology

14. Having made a valid will

15. Having no fixed course

20. __ route

21. Lethal dose

22. Indian musical pattern of notes

23. Athlete

27. Geological times

29. Atomic #21

30. In support of

31. Brew

32. Certificate of insurance

33. Taxi

34. Type of saying

35. For cigars

36. Phil __, former CIA

37. Local area network

38. Gym class

40. Philippine Island

41. Not great or bad

42. Eastern part of NY state

44. Gov't lawyers

45. Constructions

46. Former British gold coin

47. Unkeyed

48. Rechristen

50. Threaten persistently

51. Southeast

52. Cools your home

54. Removes the leaves

55. Regretted

57. Thus

61. Relief organization (abbr.)

62. Exclamation of surprise

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Turley Publications, Inc.

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2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

WARE SCHOOL

There has been increased school-family engagement, and the schools continue to help families navigate the online systems. When asked what measures would be taken DiLeo said hiring a social worker, adding academic tutors and pursuing a grant to offer additional catch-up classes either after school or over the summer. School Committee Chairman Christopher Desjardins asked DiLeo, "how are we going to pass these kids into the next grade?" DiLeo said more creative responses may be needed, such as running dual classrooms with two grades in them so students get more time to catch up and be able to stay with their peers. "It can't be business as usual because there's nothing usual about it," DiLeo said. "We have to get creative as to how we build programs to catch kids up. We've had to be everything to all people through out this whole pandemic. We're going to be building something that looks different than what has been there in the past because of the situation we find ourselves in. We know we have a challenge in front of us, but I think we're up for the challenge." "There is no way to dress it up to be anything other than what it is – and actual emergency," said Desjardins regarding the failure

PENSION

pension will be prorated and based only on the months you didn't pay into Social Security. Since you've already contacted Social Security several times and sent them the requested documentation, I know of no way to "bypass" your local Social Security office. But it might help to ask your Congressional Representative to intervene by contacting the Social Security Administration and request that your case be expedited. This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us atssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor at AMAC.

public notices

HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC NOTICES

All public notices to be published in the Ware River News should be sent directly to notices@turley.com. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call 413-283-8393. Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 14 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit www.turley.com for more information.

Water Rate Evaluation will be posted on the Town website www.townofware.com. The Board of Selectmen will receive comments from interested residents at the hearing, or residents may send written comments to sbeckley@townofware.com or mail to Town Manager, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082. This notice shall also be posted on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association's (MNPA) website (http://masspublicnotices.org). All interested parties are invited to attend. Alan G. Whitney Chairman Board of Selectmen 02/25/2021

Notice of Sale of Motor Vehicle under G.L. c. 255, Section 39A

Notice is hereby given by: **Regin's Repair, 19 Church St., Gilbertville, MA 01031**, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that on **March 15, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.** at: Regin's Repair by private sale the following Motor Vehicle will be sold to satisfy the garagekeeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicle. Vehicle description: 2012 Nissan Rogue Registration#/State: C124LR/MA VIN: JN8AS5MV6CW418750 Name and address of owner: Joseph Kenyon 114 North St. Ware, MA 01082 By: **James M. Regin** Dated: 2/16/2021 02/25, 03/04, 03/11/2021

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In accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General Law 105A, for the purpose of satisfying the liens of **Country Corners Storage & Realty**, in order to satisfy past due rents and other expenses, the contents of the following storage unit will be

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The Board of Selectmen will conduct a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 7:10 p.m.**, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to discuss the Water Rate Evaluation. A copy of the

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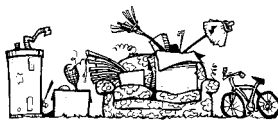
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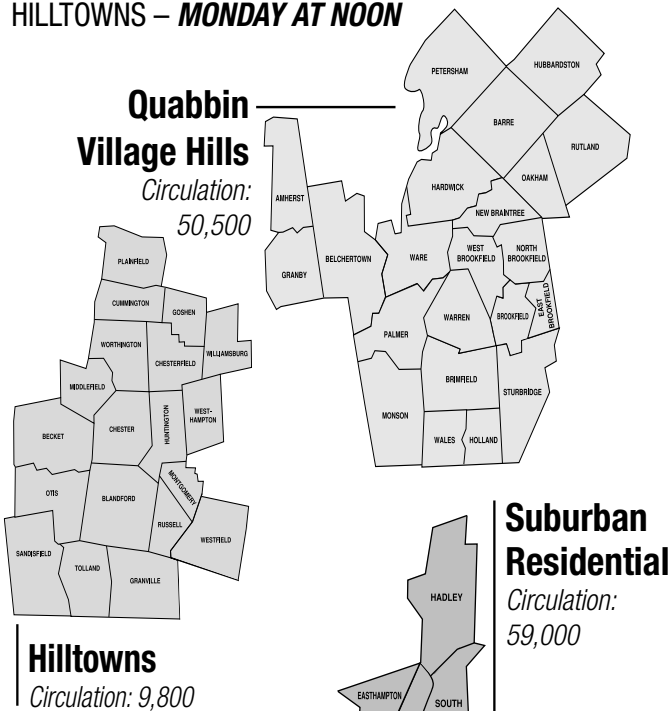
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25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
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Cornerstone Bank offers 16 student scholarships to seniors

SOUTHBRIDGE – Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 12 locations throughout central Massachusetts, will be awarding sixteen \$2,000 scholarships to students in the area it serves. Cornerstone Bank is hoping to help 2021 high school graduates throughout their community pursue higher education and foster advancement in the fields of business and finance. The sixteen scholarships will be awarded to the students who best demonstrate achievement in academics, extracurricular activities and community involvement.

“Making sure the future leaders of America get a great education is so important to us at Cornerstone Bank,” said CEO Todd Tallman. “We are excited to be able to help students achieve their dreams every year to go into the business or finance industries. Access to a good education can be difficult for many students, especially with how difficult this past year has been, so we hope the help we are able to provide to this group of graduates helps them to reach their goals.”

To apply for a scholarship, the student must:

- Be a 2021 high school graduate
- Reside within 10 miles of a Cornerstone Bank branch or office
- Anticipate being a full-time student at an accredited, degree-granting institution of higher education
- Anticipate studying in a business or financial field
- Demonstrate achievement and high standards in academics, extracurricular activities and community involvement

Submit an official transcript and GPA from their guidance office

In addition, the student must choose one of the following prompts and submit a one-page typed essay:

- “Are there any challenges you have had to overcome in your high school career?” or
- “What are your goals for the future, and how will this scholarship assist you in meeting them?”

Applications must be submitted or postmarked to Cornerstone Bank by April 5. Please send all applications to scholarships@cornerstonebank.com, or mail to Cornerstone Bank Scholarship Committee: P.O. Box 370, Southbridge, MA 01550. Selected recipients will be announced by the week of May 24. Scholarship funds will be disbursed to the student after successful completion of the first semester, and upon presentation of an official copy of the first semester transcript and second semester bill. For more information, and to download the application form, please visit cornerstonebank.com/scholarships/.

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